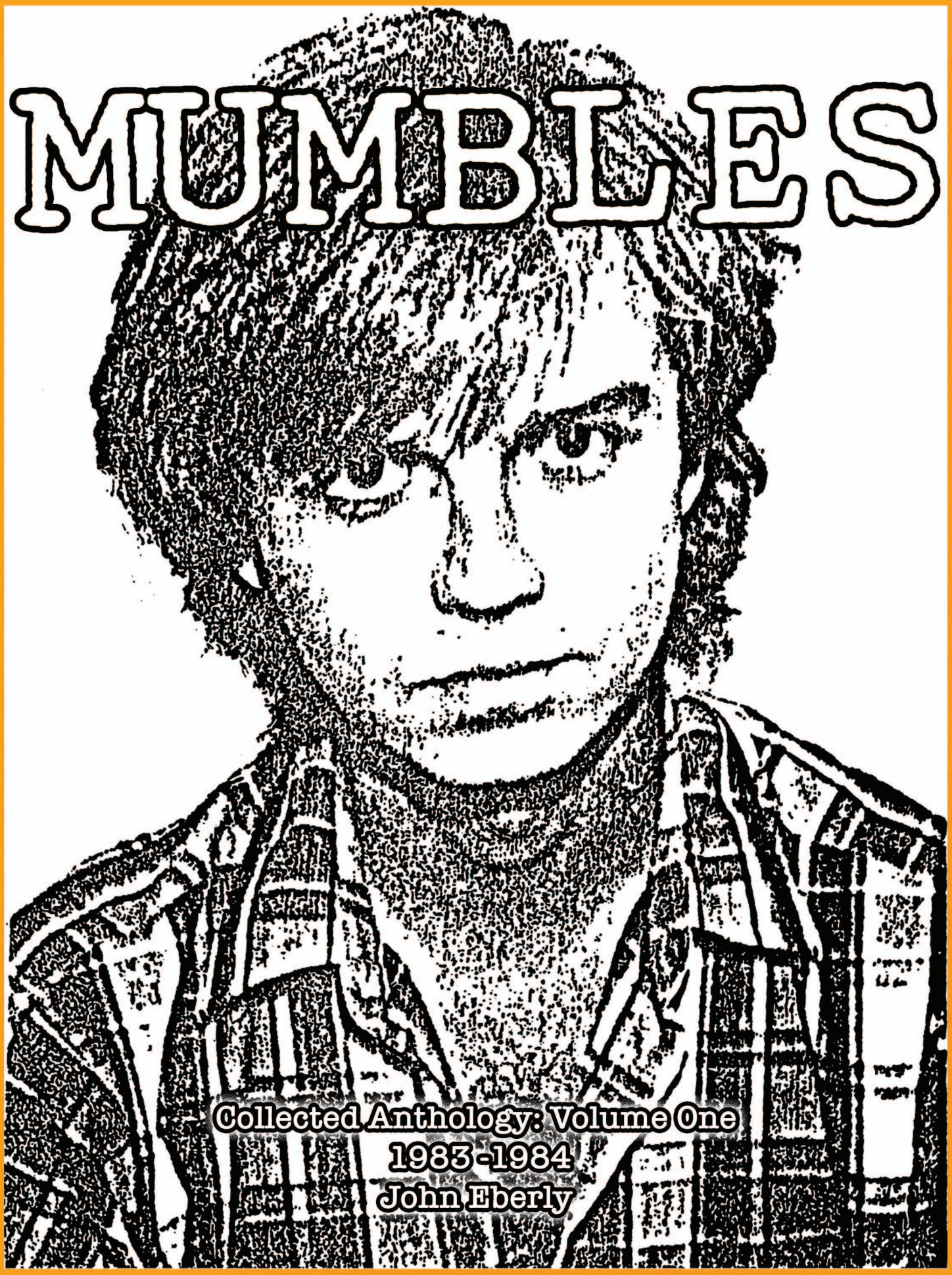
MUMBLES

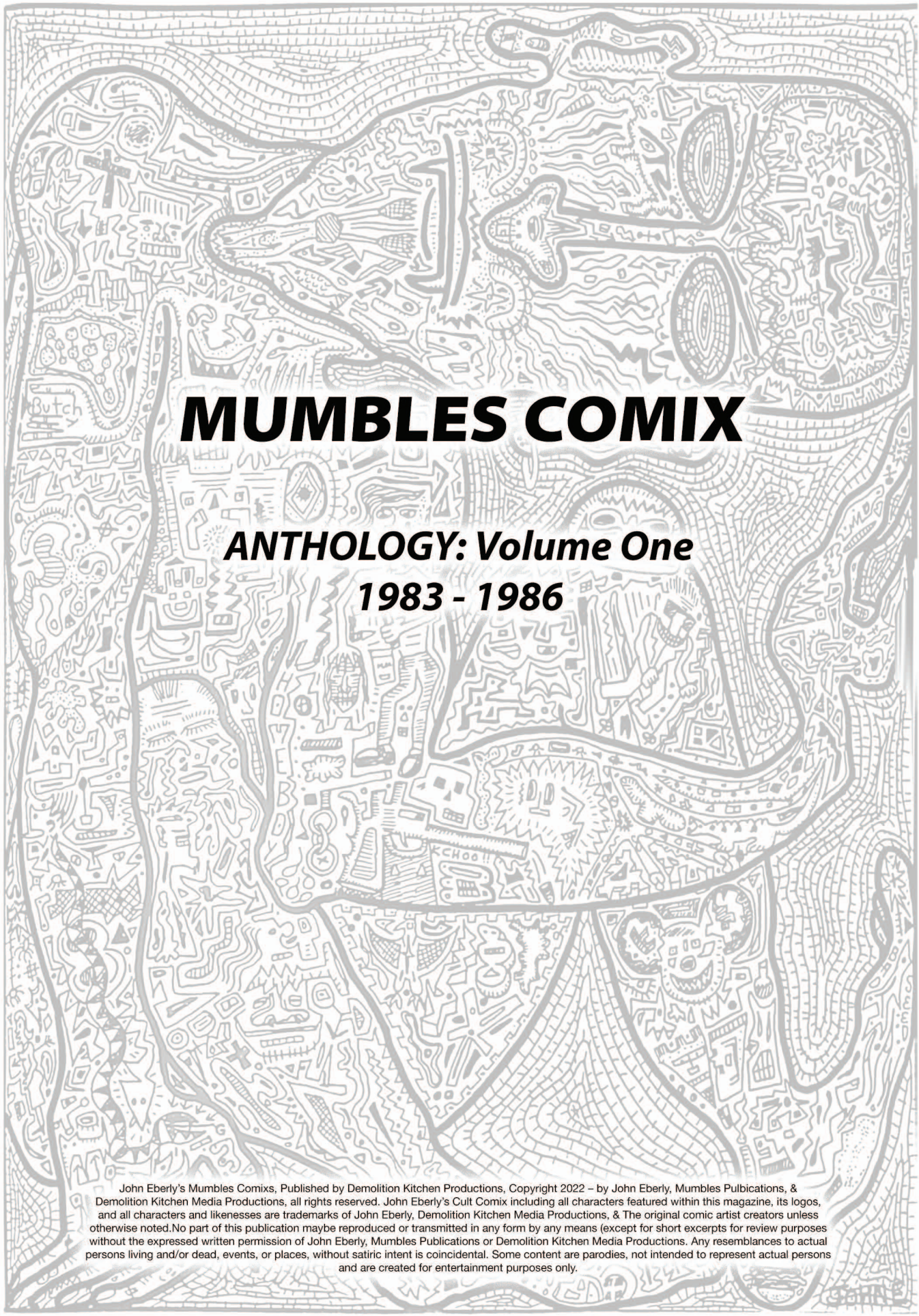


Collected Anthology: Volume One

1983 - 1984

John Eberly

COMIX!
YEAH, BUT IS IT ART?
WHO CARES?
WHAT ARE THEY SAYING?
BEATS ME!
©1985 JOHN E



MUMBLES COMIX

ANTHOLOGY: Volume One
1983 - 1986

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YOU SEEN NOBODADDY?
NOBOY, BUT I BET HE'S LOOKING FOR YOU!

MY GOD...
YES.

ME?
I LOVE YOU
OH, NO
I AM BUTCH

#1 Mumbles ©

STORIES AN MUSINGS YOU CAN BARELY READ!

LOCAL COLOR STORIES WHICH TRASH ALL MY FRIENDS CONFIDENCES!

TALES FROM SOUTH CENTRAL KANSAS AND BEYOND!

ALL STORIES AND 'ARTWORK' BY JOHN EBERLY

BIG PREMIER ISSUE!!!

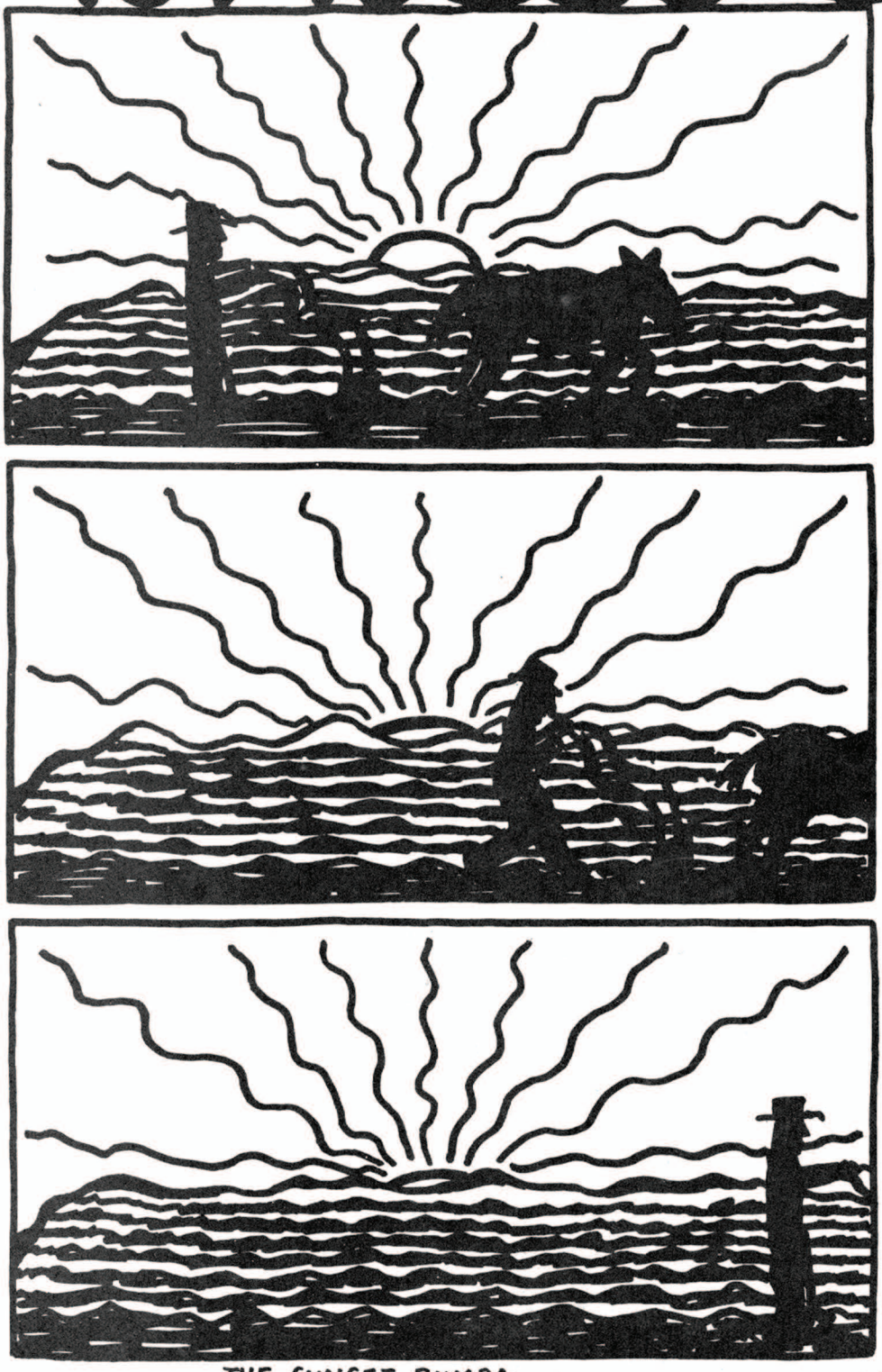
MUMBLES PUBLICATIONS

BLOW ME DOWN IF YOU AIN'T THE DAMNDEST PIRATE EVER I SAILED WITH, BLACK JOHN. AVAST NOW, HEAVE TO.
TOSS
Now I gonna fry up a fish what am, NUM-NUM
© S. Phillips

WE of the FISH PROTECTION LEAGUE HAVE STUCK BIG ARROWS THROUGH OUR HEADS IN PROTEST OF THIS PICTURE.

MUMBLES #2

KANSAS ISSUE



THE SUNSET RUMBA

THE PRICE IS ARBITRARY $2.00 BUT...IT'S GOING UP!

NOT TO BE SOLD TO THE MINOR LEAGUE ADOLTS ONLY

WELCOME, DEAR READERS TO **MUMBLES*2**. HERE IS A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE, UH, MUMBLES PHENOMENA FOR THE CURIOUS AMONG YOU:
THE MUMBLES BEGAN AS AN IDEA FOR A PUNK ROCK TYPE BAND IN JULY, 1976.. THOSE INVOLVED INCLUDED: RICHIE RICH ON DRUMS, SHIELDS ON BASS, JOHN E ON GUITAR, AND P. GREEN ON VOCALS. THIS LINE-UP WAS BASICALLY A "LIVING ROOM" R+R BAND.. I HESITATE TO USE THE TERM "GARAGE BAND" SINCE NONE OF OUR "UTILITY" APTS INCLUDED A GARAGE. WE HAD LOOSE PLANS FOR RIDING THE WAVE OF POPULARITY JUST BEGINNING TO BE ENJOYED BY SUCH BANDS AS THE RAMONES, THE PATTI SMITH GROUP, TELEVISION, THE HEARTBREAKERS, AND, OF COURSE, THE SEX PISTOLS. DOING COVERS OF THE STOOGES, STONES, SEEDS, AND OTHERS SUCH AS SAM THE SHAM AND THE PHARAOHS, WE THRASHED AWAY IN OBSCURITY. PLANS FOR A ONE-OFF SINGLE "DOWN AND SHOUT" B/W "JOHN E BE GOOD" ON OUR OWN -LETHAL AID RECORDS- NEVER GOT OFF THE GROUND. DISGUSTED, SHIELDS LEFT FOR AUSTRALIA WITH PLANS FOR STARTING A "CARP RANCH;" RICH GOT MARRIED AND "MELLOW;" JOHN E WENT BACK TO ART SCHOOL, AND P. GREEN WENT TO WORK IN A SLAUGHTERHOUSE, CONTINUING TO WRITE INSIGHTFUL LYRICS AND IMAGINATIVE SHORT STORIES (WHICH HOPEFULLY WILL APPEAR IN A FUTURE **MUMBLES**). SEEING A RESURGENCE -ALREADY, AT LEAST, 10 YRS ON - OF U.G. COMICS VIA THE PHOTOCOPIER REVOLUTION, ABOUT A YEAR AGO I RESURRECTED THE **MUMBLES** LOGO, AND STARTED **MUMBLES PUBLICATIONS** WHICH RESULTED IN A STRING OF SELF-PUBLISHED BOOKS (SEE BACK INSIDE COVER). WITH THIS ISSUE -ALTHOUGH IT'S PRACTICALLY A SOLO- I ASSUMED THE ROLE OF EDITOR, INVITING ARTISTS AND WRITERS FROM ALL OVER THE STATE TO CONTRIBUTE TO A "KANSAS ISSUE".. THE RESULTS YOU HAVE BEFORE YOU. I WISH TO THANK ALL OF YOU WHO SENT ME SOMETHING.. AND INVITE ANY OF YOU OUT THERE TO WRITE ME CONCERNING SPECIFICS FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO FUTURE **MUMBLES** PROJECTS. **MUMBLES*2** IS DEDICATED TO P. GREEN, ABOVE ALL FOR HIS FRIENDSHIP, BUT ALSO FOR HIS ENCOURAGEMENT, INSPIRATION AND ADVICE - IN HELPING TO KEEP THE **MUMBLES** SPIRIT ALIVE AND WELL, IN WHATEVER LIVINGROOM IT MAY APPEAR.

John E

→ PORTRAIT OF P. GREEN AND BRAVE DOG BROOMUS BY "G."

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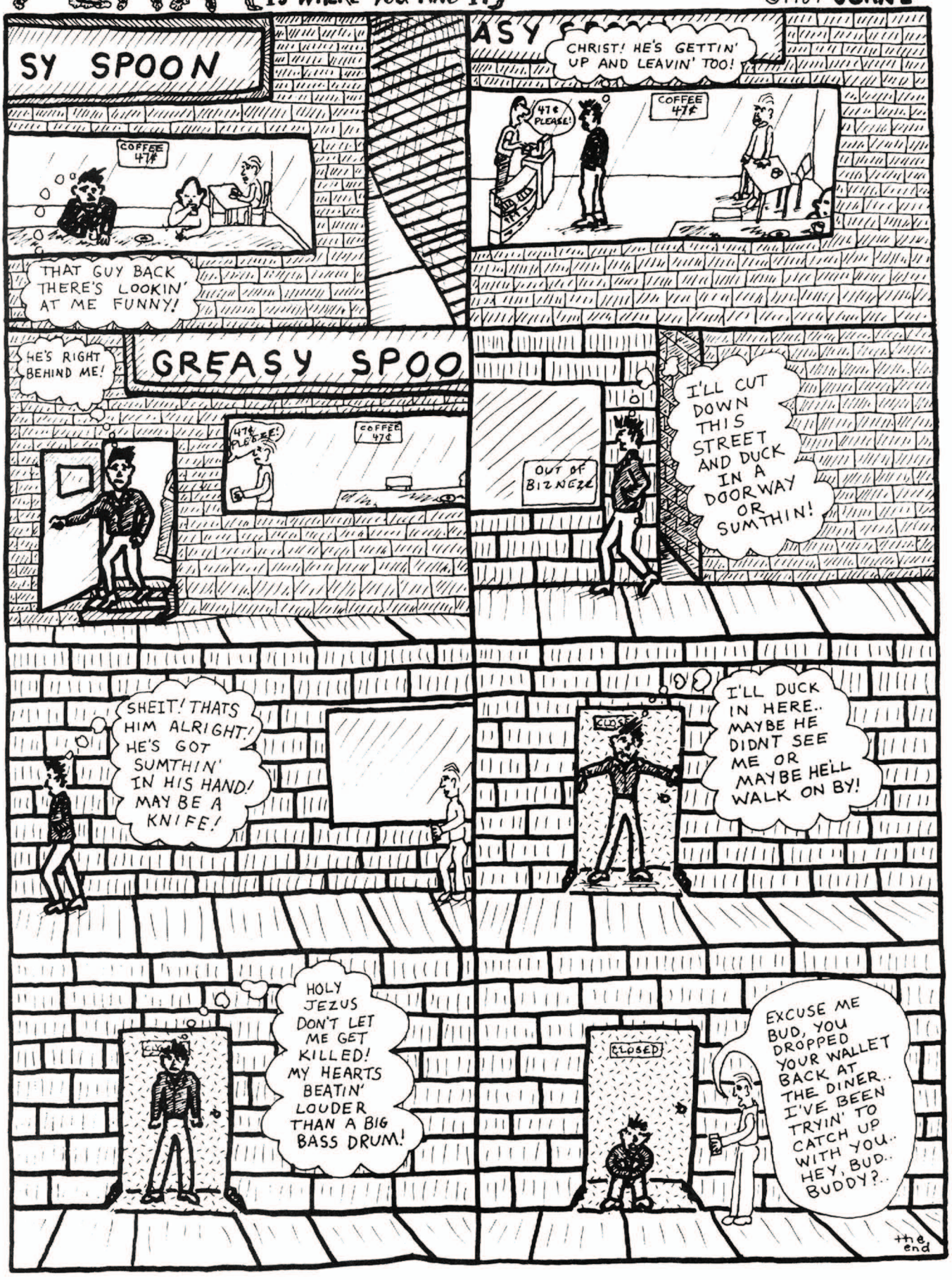
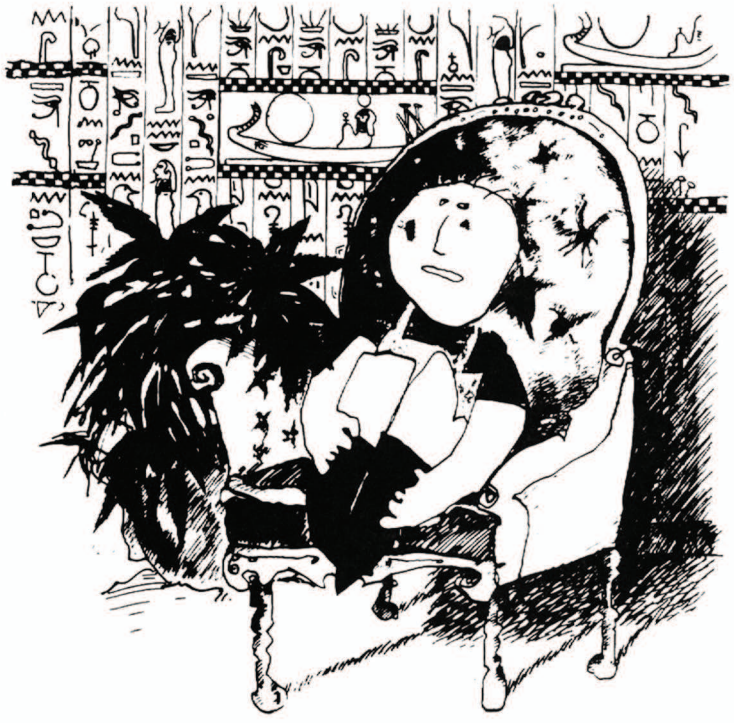
PHOTO-PORTRAIT OF JOHN E BY BOB FAIR.

UNAUTHORIZED DUPLICATION OF THIS BOOK IN ANY FORM IS ILLEGAL + EXPENSIVE.. WHY NOT JUST BUY ANOTHER COPY?

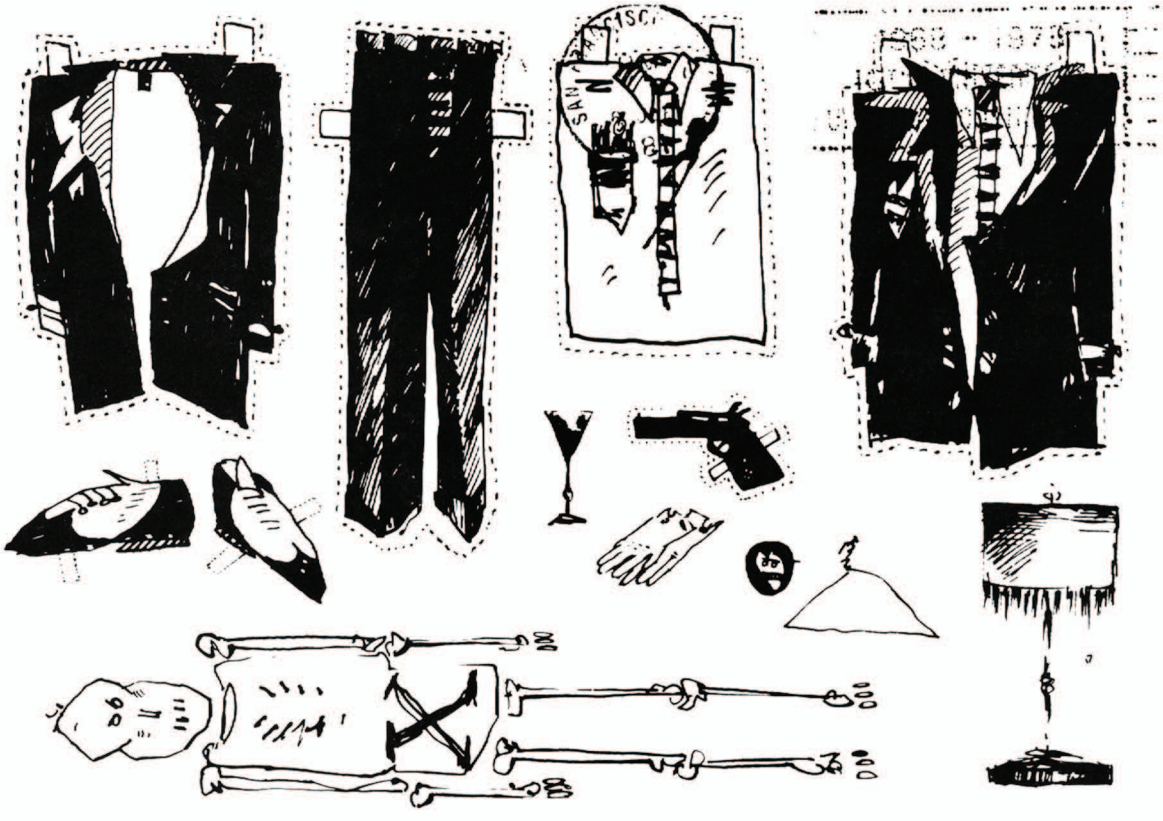
FEAR (IS WHERE YOU FIND IT)

©1984 JOHN E


SY SPOON
COFFEE 47¢
THAT GUY BACK THERE'S LOOKIN' AT ME FUNNY!
ASY
CHRIST! HE'S GETTIN' UP AND LEAVIN' TOO!
47¢ PLEASE!
COFFEE 47¢
HE'S RIGHT BEHIND ME!
GREASY SPOO
47¢ PLEASE!
COFFEE 47¢
OUT OF BIZNEZZ
I'LL CUT DOWN THIS STREET AND DUCK IN A DOORWAY OR SUMTHIN!
SHEIT! THATS HIM ALRIGHT! HE'S GOT SUMTHIN' IN HIS HAND! MAY BE A KNIFE!
I'LL DUCK IN HERE.. MAYBE HE DIDN'T SEE ME OR MAYBE HE'LL WALK ON BY!
HOLY JEZUS DON'T LET ME GET KILLED! MY HEARTS BEATIN' LOUDER THAN A BIG BASS DRUM!
CLOSED
EXCUSE ME BUD, YOU DROPPED YOUR WALLET BACK AT THE DINER.. I'VE BEEN TRYIN' TO CATCH UP WITH YOU.. HEY, BUD.. BUDDY?..
the end



"The dogs have told me in their language why they are living down there and bringing evil upon the country."



FROM DIFFERENT POSTCARD SERIES BY ELLEN FURGUSON, COPYRIGHT © 1984

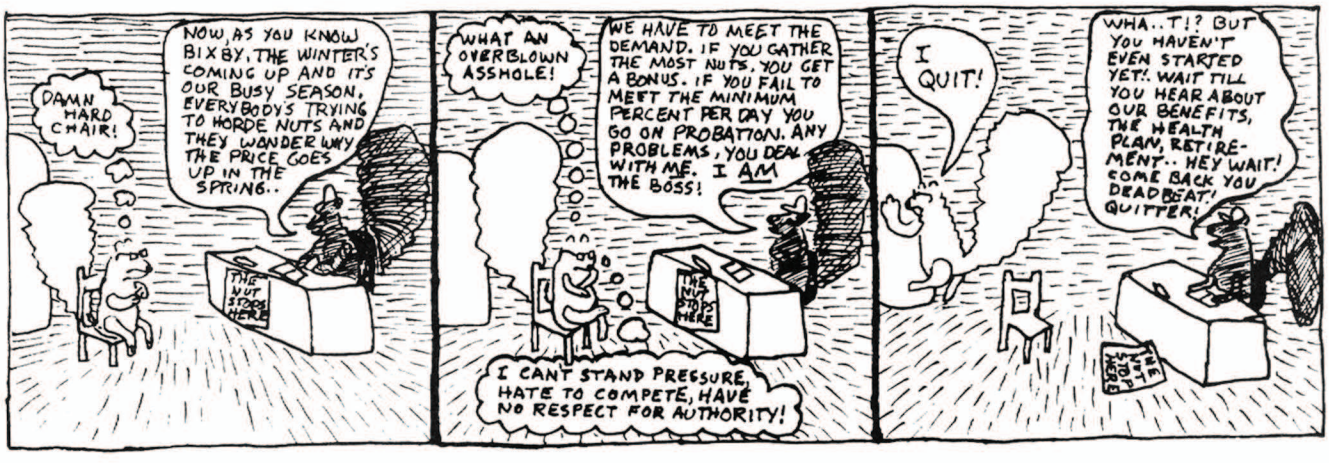
SQUIRREL TAILS

by: JOHN E © 1984

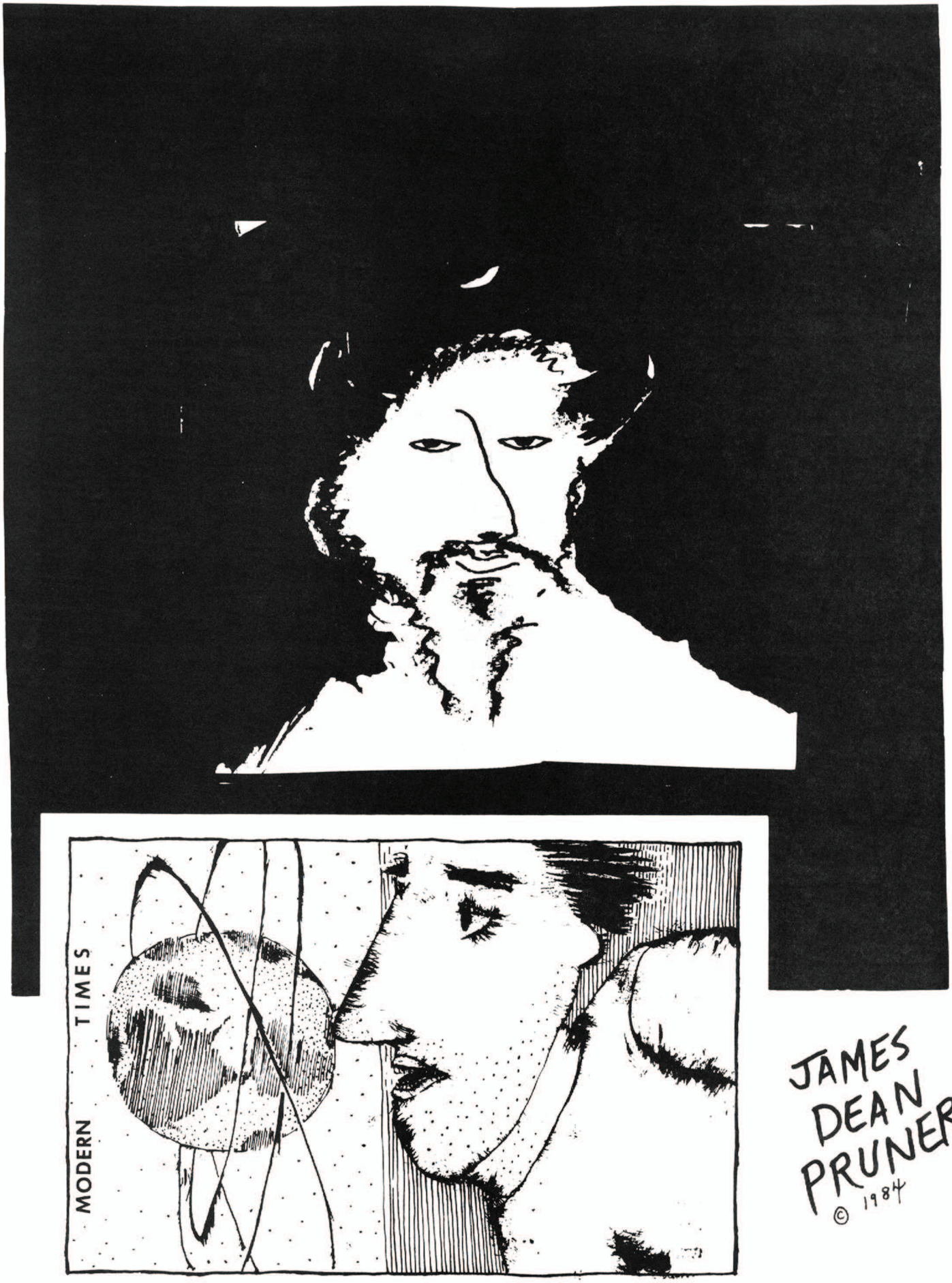
OUR STORY BEGINS WHEN BIXBY BANAL-ARTISTIC + INTELLECTUAL DEADBEAT, IS FORCED INTO THE CRUEL WORLD OF GAINFUL EMPLOYMENT, DUE TO THE UTTER FAILURE OF HIS PAINTING AND WRITING VENTURES...

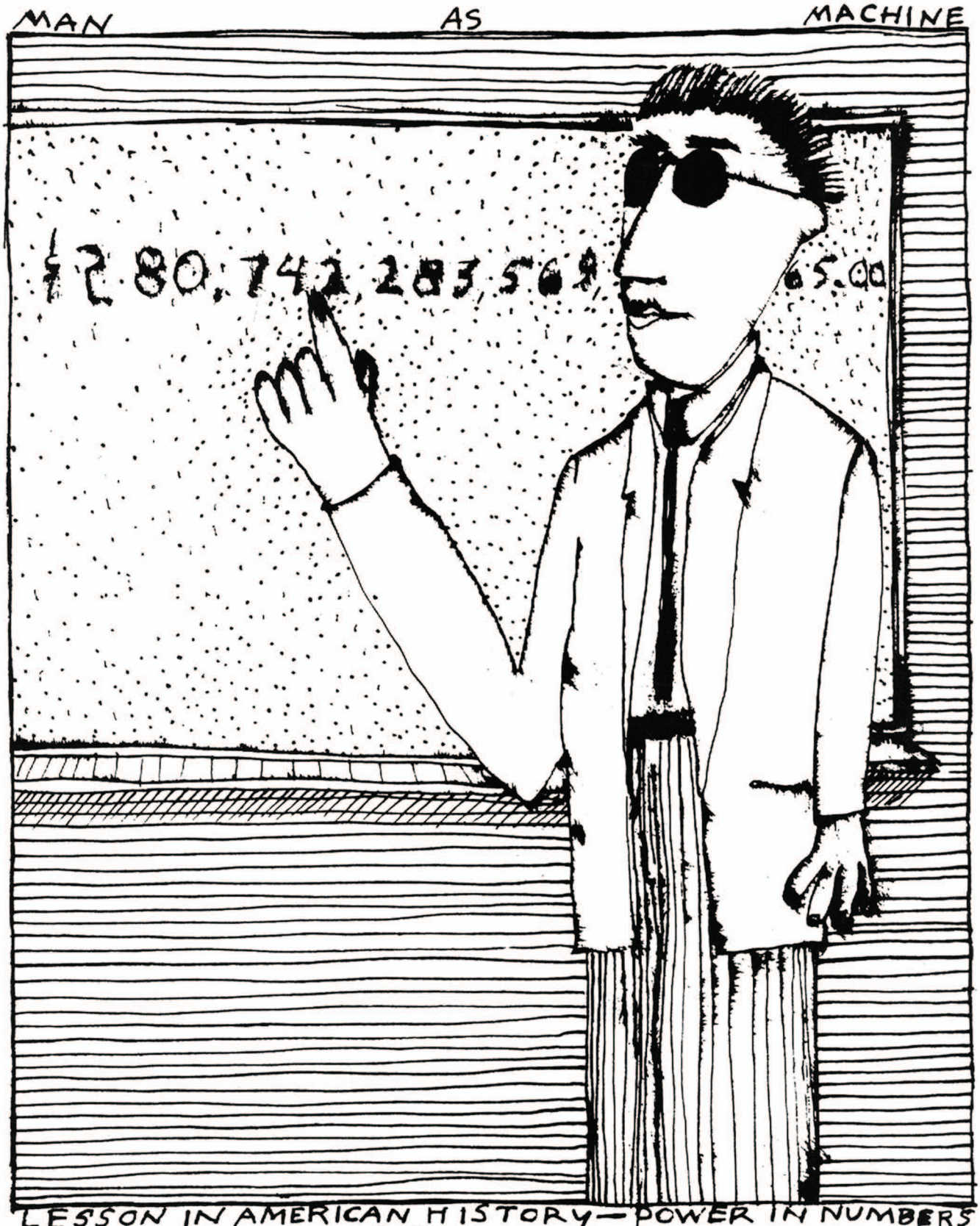
HI, BIXBY! WHERE YOU GOIN THIS MORNING?
GOT A JOB, ROGER..
MY MUSE FAILED ME- GONNA TRY A 9-5.
WHAT'S HE CARE? HE'S GOT A MASTER AND "PET" STATUS.
SAY IT AIN'T SO LIL' BRO!
SURE AM HUNGRY! BETTER GO HOME!
IS THERE NO ROOM LEFT IN THE ANIMAL KINGDOM FOR ARTISTIC EXPRESSION?
I'M BEGINNING TO HAVE MY DOUBTS...
GOOD LUCK, BIX, SEE YOU AROUND.
YEAH, LATER ROGER
SLAVE!
FOOD! FOOD! FOOD!

OH MY GOD..
HI. I'M BIXBY..
YOU MUST BE THE NEW MAN! WELCOME TO THE NUT FACTORY! MY NAMES MIKE, I'M YOUR SUPERVISOR
LOOKS SOFT!
HERE WE GO!
C'MON IN THE OFFICE OH! BUT WATCH YOUR HEAD!


DAMN HARD CHAIR!
NOW, AS YOU KNOW BIXBY, THE WINTER'S COMING UP AND IT'S OUR BUSY SEASON. EVERYBODY'S TRYING TO HORDE NUTS AND THEY WONDER WHY THE PRICE GOES UP IN THE SPRING..
THE NUT STOPS HERE
WHAT AN OVERBLOWN ASSHOLE!
WE HAVE TO MEET THE DEMAND. IF YOU GATHER THE MOST NUTS, YOU GET A BONUS. IF YOU FAIL TO MEET THE MINIMUM PERCENT PER DAY YOU GO ON PROBATION. ANY PROBLEMS, YOU DEAL WITH ME. I AM THE BOSS!
THE NUT STOPS HERE
I CAN'T STAND PRESSURE, HATE TO COMPETE, HAVE NO RESPECT FOR AUTHORITY!
I QUIT!
WHA..T!? BUT YOU HAVEN'T EVEN STARTED YET!. WAIT TILL YOU HEAR ABOUT OUR BENEFITS, THE HEALTH PLAN, RETIREMENT.. HEY WAIT! COME BACK YOU DEADBEAT! QUITTER!
THE NUT STOPS HERE

WELL, THEN, CUT THE CRAP, MIKE!
alright, sit down, BIX!
I'M GOING TO START YOU FROM THE GROUND UP!
IN THIS JOB, NO ONE WILL BOTHER YOU...
YOU GET TO BE YOUR OWN BOSS.. NO QUOTAS!
NO ONE LOOKING OVER YOUR SHOULDER...
AND.. PLENTY OF FRESH AIR!
yeah?
HEY, BIXBY! HARD AT IT, HUH?
yeah, yeah, HI ROG
HEY!..
WHAT'S THIS UNDER YOUR PAW?
YOU ARE HERE BY ENTITLED TO 9 MO. WORK LEAVE TO WRITE YOUR MEMOIRS, ALL EXPENSES PAID BY NUTWELL INDUSTRY.. DO A LITTLE PAINTING, RELAX, REST UP, EAT GOOD, DRINK, SMOKE, DON'T WORRY, CONGRADULATIONS
OH, IT'S ONLY A PEANUT WRAPPER-
HE SURE HAS A CRAZY LOOK IN HIS EYE! THIS "JOB" STUFF MUST BE GETTIN' TO HIM!
THIS DUMMY'LL FALL FOR IT!
YEAH.. WELL-
SEE YA, BIX..
NUTZ!
YEAH! LATER ROGER!
MAKE LIKE A TREE AND LEAVE, BO, BUT DON'T FORGET THE BARK AND DON'T TAKE NO RUBBER BONES! HEH HEH... WITTY BASTARD.
TO BE CONTINUED...


MODERN TIMES
JAMES DEAN PRUNER
© 1984



LESSON IN AMERICAN HISTORY—POWER IN NUMBERS

J. Pruner

A NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

THE ANXIOUS HOSTS WELCOME THEIR QUESTS.

THE POLITE QUESTS EAT, DRINK AND ROLE PLAY.

EVERYONE PARTIES: HEY, HEY, MINGLE, MINGLE, MIX, GULP, LAUGH, COUGH, JOKE, LIE, WINK, PAT, GROPE, SWALLOW, BELCH, EXCUSE, FLIRT, FLIRT, FLIRT, FLIRT EVEN MORE, POUT, SMILE, THINK, SPEAK, CONTRIVE, CONTRIVE, PRETEND, TALK, ACT, BE..., I AM...

SUDDENLY, A RIFT APPEARS AMONG THE QUESTS.

WHAT'S GONE WRONG?

YECHH! - SOMEBODY THREW-UP.

SICK HUMOR: A NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY/©1984, MUMBLE'S PUBLICATIONS. DEDICATED TO THE BODY'S NATURAL RESPONSES & OTHER PHYSIOLOGICAL STUFF. BY ZNIKWAH JJ

MY HOME TOWN

FEATURING: BUTCH BADOWSKI

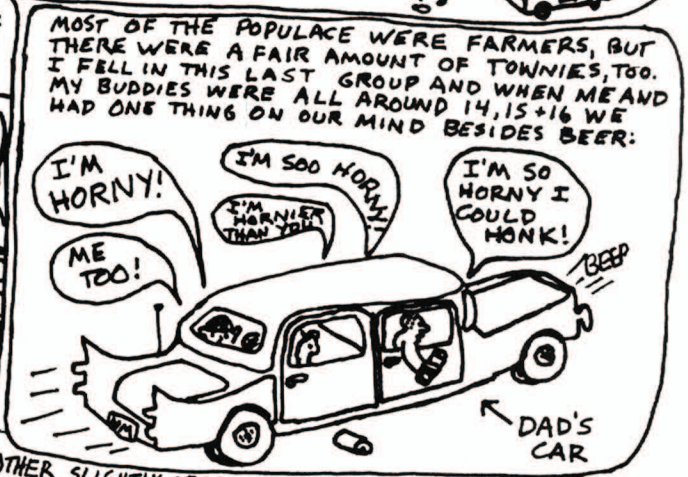
I CAME FROM LUNGERVILLE, A SEEMINGLY QUIET LITTLE BURG, NESTLED IN A VALLEY IN N.E. KANSAS...

PRETTY NON-DESCRIPT AT FIRST GLANCE, RIGHT? LOOK A LITTLE CLOSER..

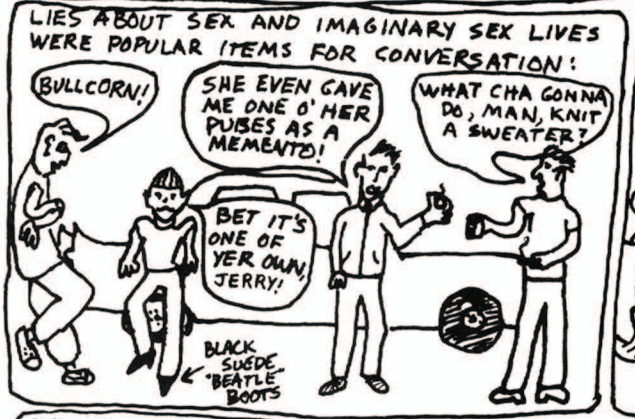
EVERYBODY HAD ONE THING IN COMMON IN LUNGERVILLE:

WHAT YA GONNA DO TONIGHT?
GET DRUNK! WHAT ELSE? HAW, HAW!
I KNOW SOMEONE WHO'LL BUY US SOME BEER!
LET'S GO!
LET'S GET SCHANKERED!
NEED A FRESH BEER!
I WONDER IF I'LL MAKE IT HOME..

MOST OF THE POPULACE WERE FARMERS, BUT THERE WERE A FAIR AMOUNT OF TOWNIES, TOO. I FELL IN THIS LAST GROUP AND WHEN ME AND MY BUDDIES WERE ALL AROUND 14, 15 + 16 WE HAD ONE THING ON OUR MIND BESIDES BEER:



LIES ABOUT SEX AND IMAGINARY SEX LIVES WERE POPULAR ITEMS FOR CONVERSATION:


BULLCORN!
SHE EVEN GAVE ME ONE O' HER PUBES AS A MEMENTO!
WHAT CHA GONNA DO, MAN, KNIT A SWEATER?
BET IT'S ONE OF YER OWN, JERRY!
BLACK SUEDE "BEATLE" BOOTS

OTHER, SLIGHTLY LESS IMPORTANT OBSESSIONS AT THIS TIME WERE FAST CARS AND CHECKING OUT THE LATEST CAR WRECKS EITHER AT THE SCENE OR AT ONE OF THE MANY (ALWAYS BUSY) BODY SHOPS IN TOWN.

AND, OF COURSE WE HAD THE REQUISITE GARAGE ROCK AND ROLL BAND.. WE WERE CALLED "THE ENEMAS," OBVIOUSLY FAR AHEAD OF OUR TIME...

BUTCH ON DRUMS
I'M A STAR!
M. WARD DRUMSET
HUGE VOX AMPS LIKE THE BEATLES USED ON ED SULLIVAN!
DAVE ON VOCALS, BASS
ENEMAS
IN THE MIDNITE HOUR!
SILVERTONE GUITARS FROM SEARS
ANDY, RYTHYM, COULDN'T PLAY
KENNY ON LEAD GUITAR

BUTCH SUFFERS AN ADOLESCENT EXISTENTIAL DILUMA:

MY GENIUS AND CREATIVITY ARE STIFILED IN THIS DEAD END ENVIRONMENT..
OH WHY? OH WHY WAS I BORN IN THIS BURG?
THERE MUST BE MORE TO LIFE THAN BEER, SEX, AND ROCK AND ROLL..
OR IS THERE?

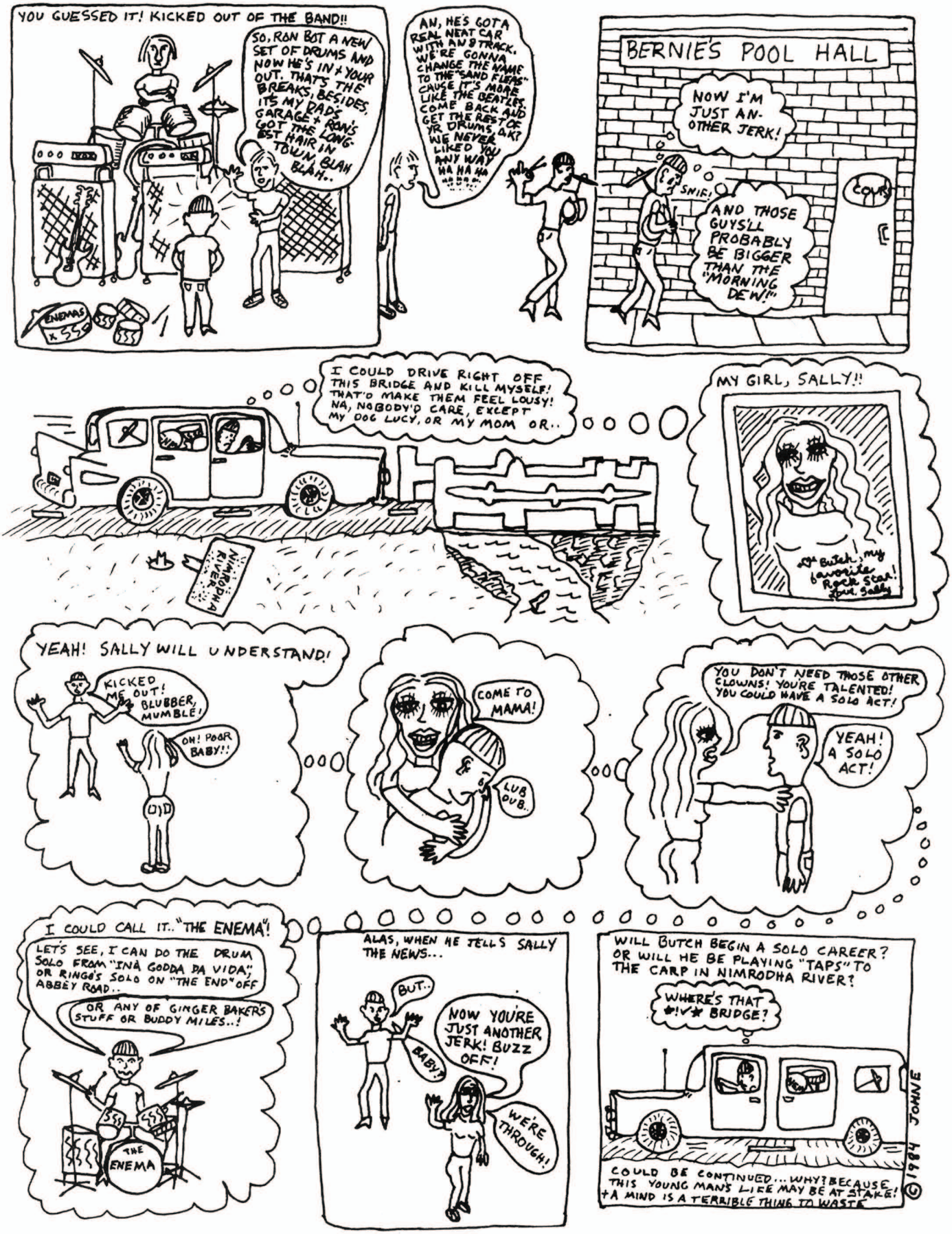
WILL HE FIND HAPPINESS AND TRUE FULFILLMENT AS A ROCK STAR? OR WILL HE GET KICKED OUT OF THE BAND WITH 150 PAYMENTS LEFT ON HIS DRUMSET?

TO BE CONTINUED.. FOR NO APPARENT REASON...

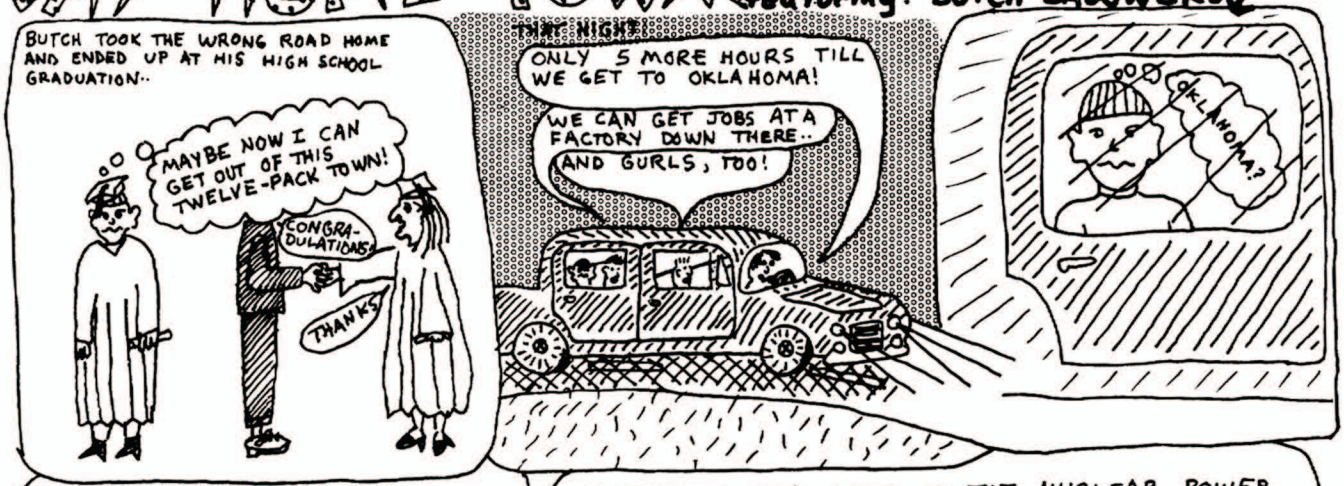
© 1984 JOHNE

MY HOME TOWN

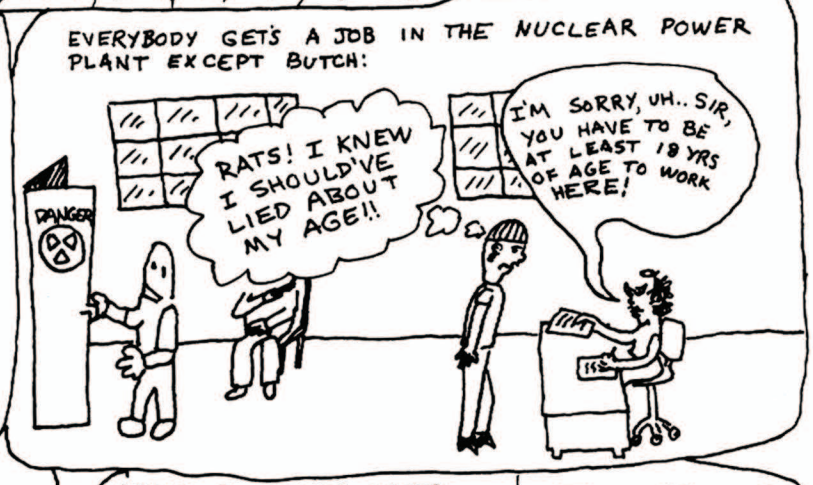
FEATURING: BUTCH BADOWSKI


YOU GUESSED IT! KICKED OUT OF THE BAND!!
SO, RON BOT A NEW SET OF DRUMS AND NOW HE'S IN + YOUR OUT. THAT'S THE BREAKS, BESIDES, IT'S MY DAD'S GARAGE + RON'S GOT THE LONGEST HAIR IN TOWN, BLAH BLAH..
ENEMAS
AW, HE'S GOT A REAL NEAT CAR WITH AN 8 TRACK. WE'RE GONNA CHANGE THE NAME TO THE "SAND FLEAS" CAUSE IT'S MORE LIKE THE BEATLES. COME BACK AND GET THE REST OF YR DRUMS, O.K? WE NEVER LIKED YOU ANY WAY HA HA HA "BOO"
BERNIE'S POOL HALL
NOW I'M JUST ANOTHER JERK!
SNIF!
AND THOSE GUYS'LL PROBABLY BE BIGGER THAN THE "MORNING DEW!"
COURT
I COULD DRIVE RIGHT OFF THIS BRIDGE AND KILL MYSELF! THAT'D MAKE THEM FEEL LOUSY! NA, NOBODY'D CARE, EXCEPT MY DOG LUCY, OR MY MOM OR..
NIMRODHA RIVER
MY GIRL, SALLY!!
Butch, my favorite Rock Star! Love, Sally
YEAH! SALLY WILL UNDERSTAND!
KICKED ME OUT! BLUBBER, MUMBLE!
OH! POOR BABY!!
COME TO MAMA!
LUB DUB..
YOU DON'T NEED THOSE OTHER CLOWNS! YOU'RE TALENTED! YOU COULD HAVE A SOLO ACT!
YEAH! A SOLO ACT!
I COULD CALL IT.. "THE ENEMA"!
LET'S SEE, I CAN DO THE DRUM SOLO FROM "INA GODDA DA VIDA", OR RINGO'S SOLO ON "THE END" OFF ABBEY ROAD..
OR ANY OF GINGER BAKER'S STUFF OR BUDDY MILES..!
THE ENEMA
ALAS, WHEN HE TELLS SALLY THE NEWS...
BUT..
BABY?
NOW YOU'RE JUST ANOTHER JERK! BUZZ OFF!
WE'RE THROUGH!
WILL BUTCH BEGIN A SOLO CAREER? OR WILL HE BE PLAYING "TAPS" TO THE CARP IN NIMRODHA RIVER?
WHERE'S THAT ★!V★ BRIDGE?
COULD BE CONTINUED... WHY? BECAUSE THIS YOUNG MAN'S LIFE MAY BE AT STAKE! †A MIND IS A TERRIBLE THING TO WASTE
JOMIE ©1981

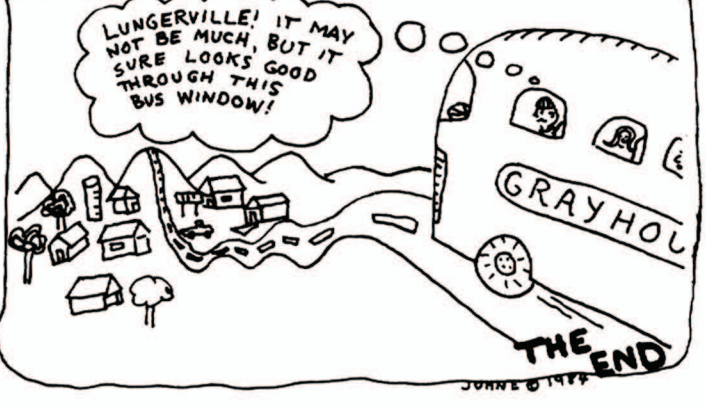
"MY HOME TOWN" featuring: BUTCH BADOWSKI


BUTCH TOOK THE WRONG ROAD HOME AND ENDED UP AT HIS HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION..
MAYBE NOW I CAN GET OUT OF THIS TWELVE-PACK TOWN!
CONGRA-DULATIONS!
THANKS
THAT NIGHT..
ONLY 5 MORE HOURS TILL WE GET TO OKLAHOMA!
WE CAN GET JOBS AT A FACTORY DOWN THERE..
AND GURLS, TOO!
OKLAHOMA?

AFTER AN ALL DAY SEARCH, THE BOYS RENT AN APARTMENT IN THEIR "PRICE RANGE".. IN NADA, OK.
OUR FIRST HOME AWAY FROM HOME!
IS THAT BLOOD ON THE COUCH?!
IT'S VINYL! IT'LL WASH OFF!
WHAT A DIVE!


EVERYBODY GETS A JOB IN THE NUCLEAR POWER PLANT EXCEPT BUTCH:
RATS! I KNEW I SHOULD'VE LIED ABOUT MY AGE!!
I'M SORRY, UH.. SIR, YOU HAVE TO BE AT LEAST 18 YRS OF AGE TO WORK HERE!
RANGER

SO... HE'S FORCED TO RELY ON THE "BENEVOLENCE" OF HIS "FRIENDS".
HAR! HAR!
NO MONEY FOR BEER, HUH, BUTCH? GUESS YOU'LL HAVE TO GO ON THE WAGON!

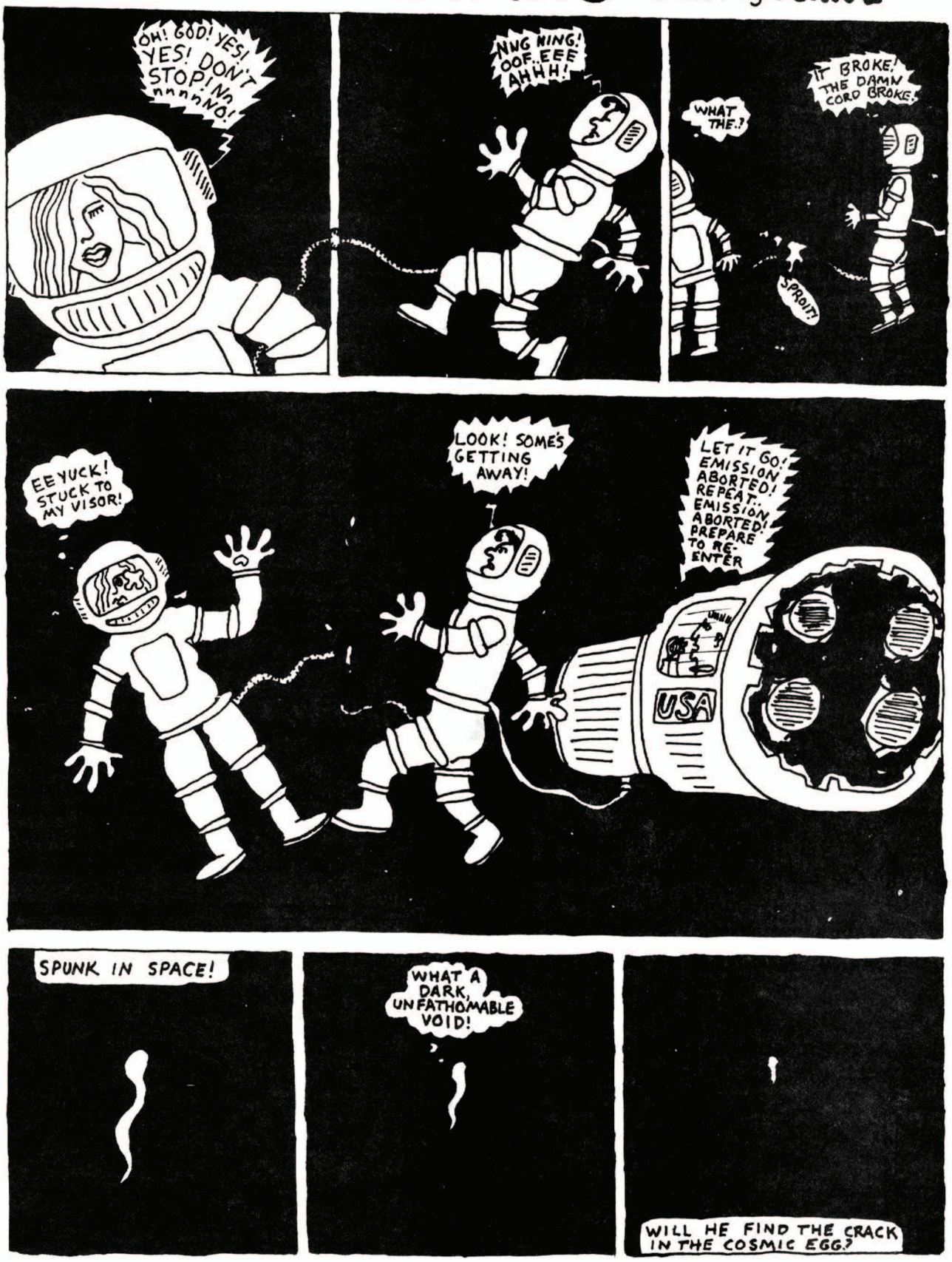


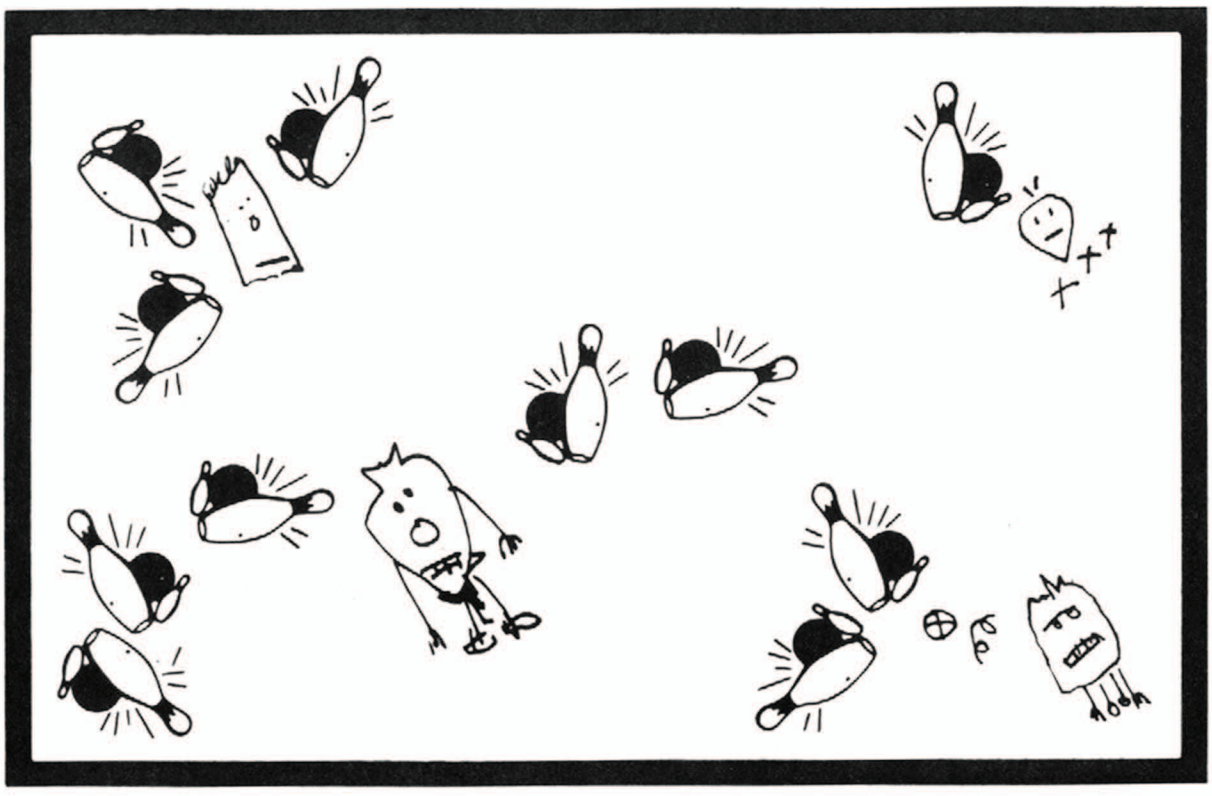
JOHNE © 1988

A FRIEND OF MINE RECENTLY OFFERRED THIS ADVICE: "IF YOU WANT TO SELL ALOT OF COMICS, YOU'VE GOT TO PUT MORE SEX INTO IT, OR OUTER SPACE STUFF." OKAY, WATSON, HERE'S MY COMPROMISE..

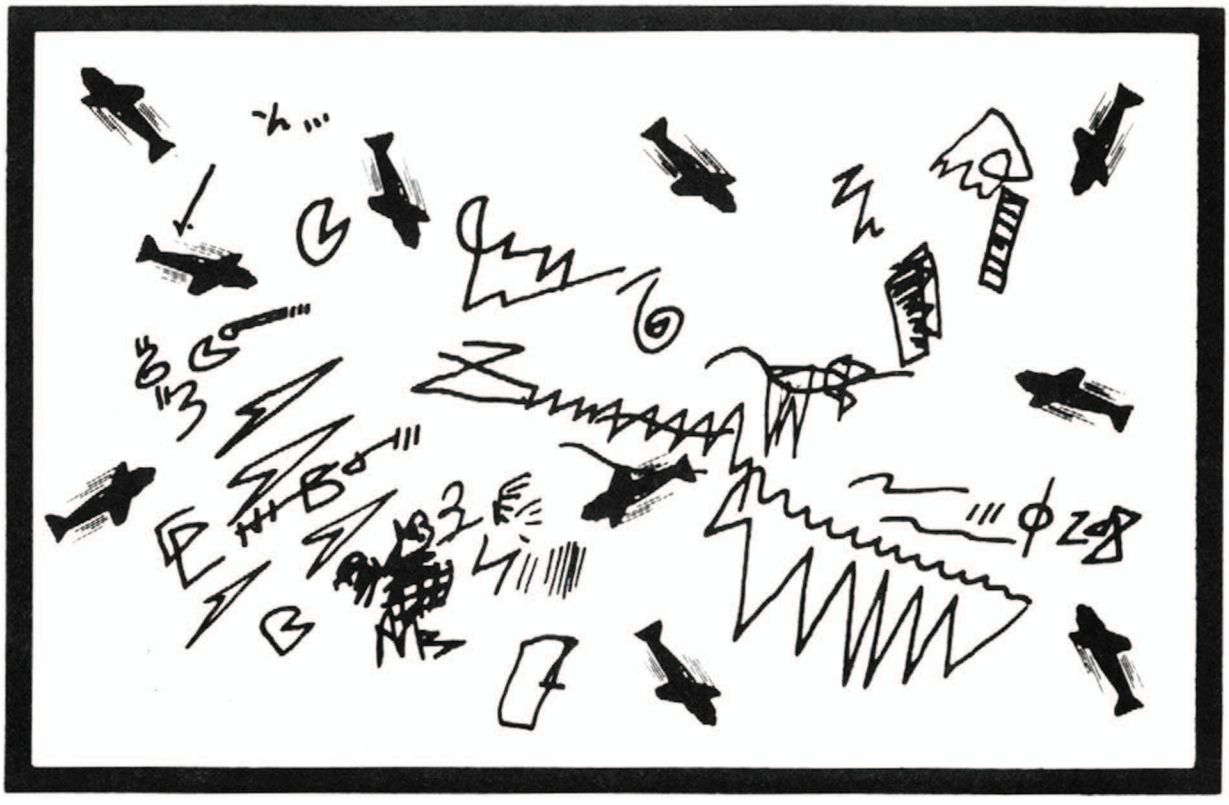
"SEX WITH THE STARS"

© 1984 by JOHN E

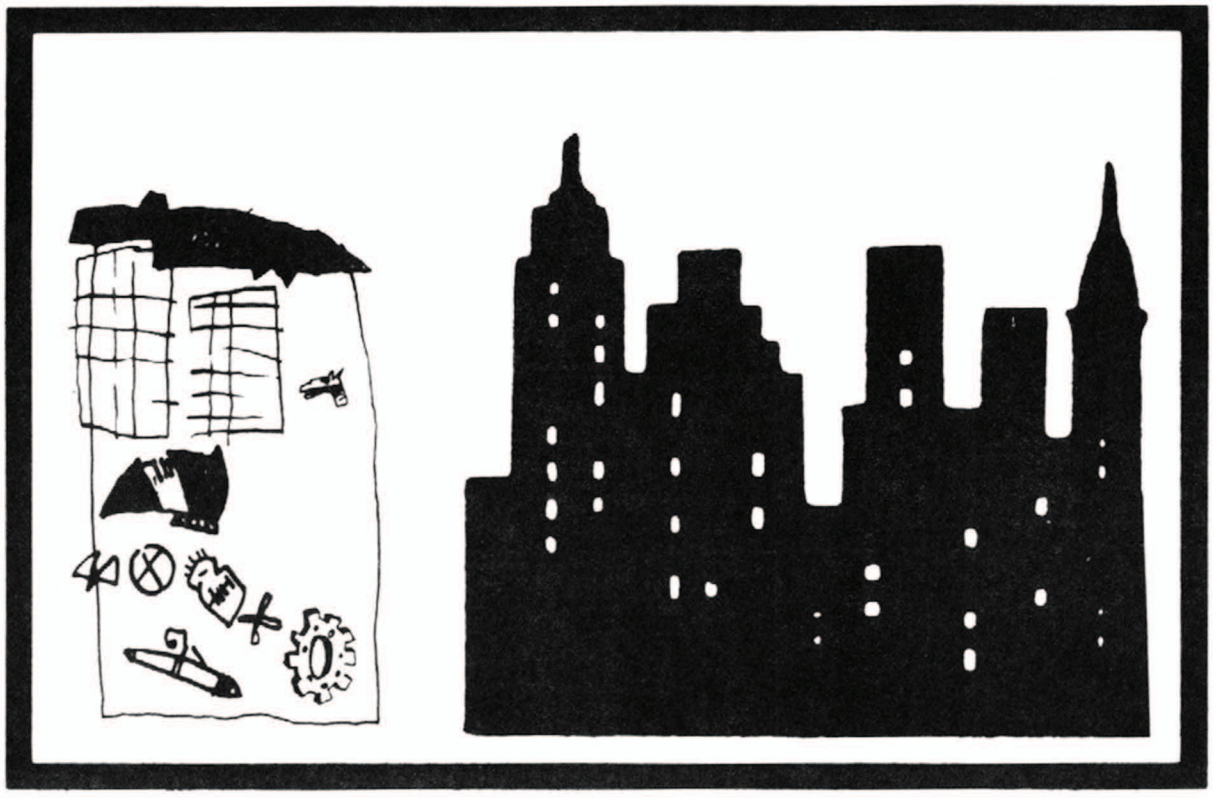

OH! GOD! YES! YES! DON'T STOP! Nn nnnnNO!
NNG NING! OOF..EEE AHHH!
WHAT THE..!
IT BROKE! THE DAMN CORD BROKE!
SPROIT!
EE YUCK! STUCK TO MY VISOR!
LOOK! SOME'S GETTING AWAY!
LET IT GO! EMISSION ABORTED! REPEAT.. EMISSION ABORTED! PREPARE TO RE-ENTER
USA
SPUNK IN SPACE!
WHAT A DARK, UNFATHOMABLE VOID!
WILL HE FIND THE CRACK IN THE COSMIC EGG?



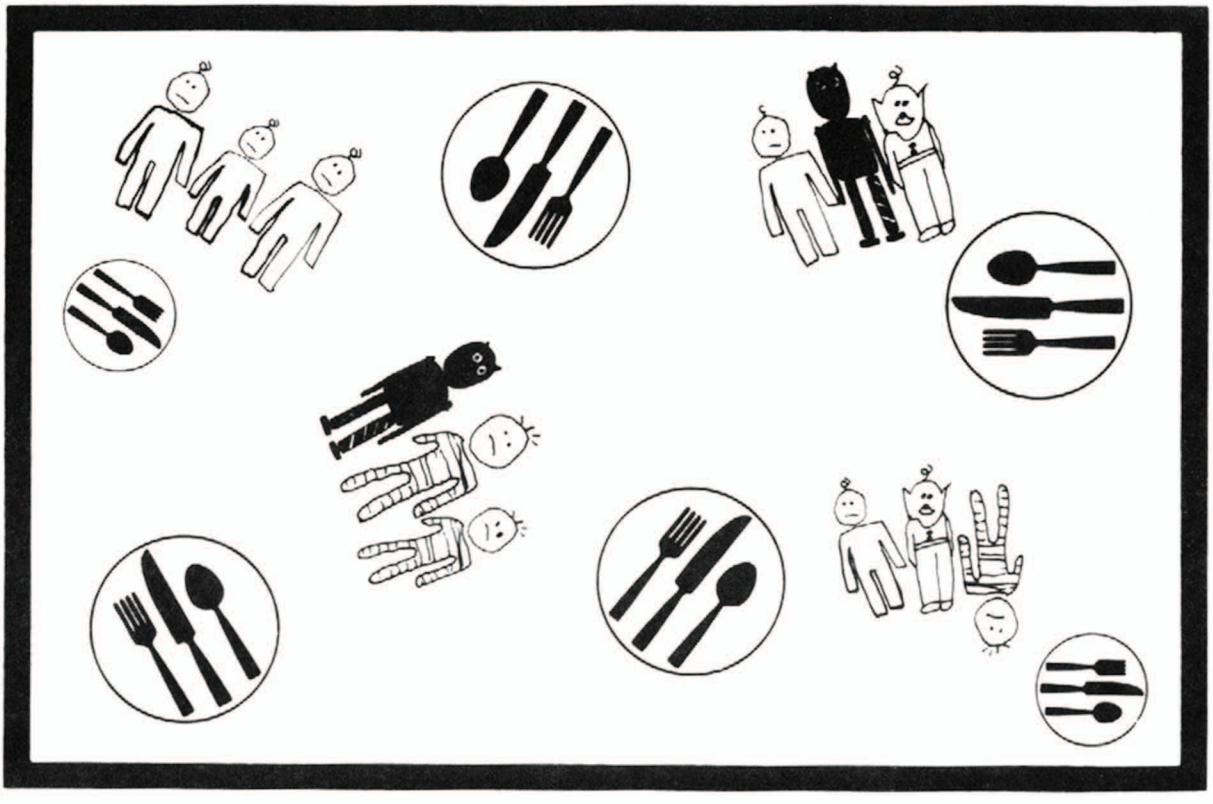
Atoms at Work



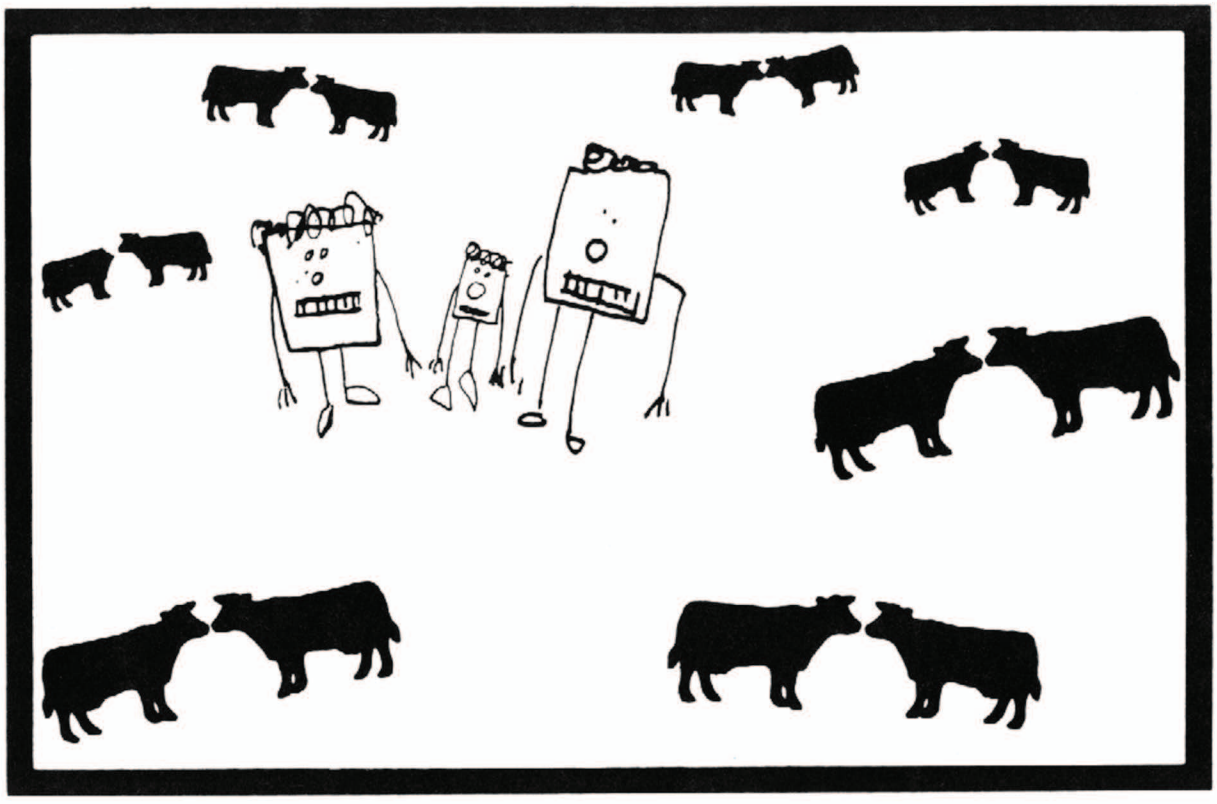
The atoms are in constant motion.



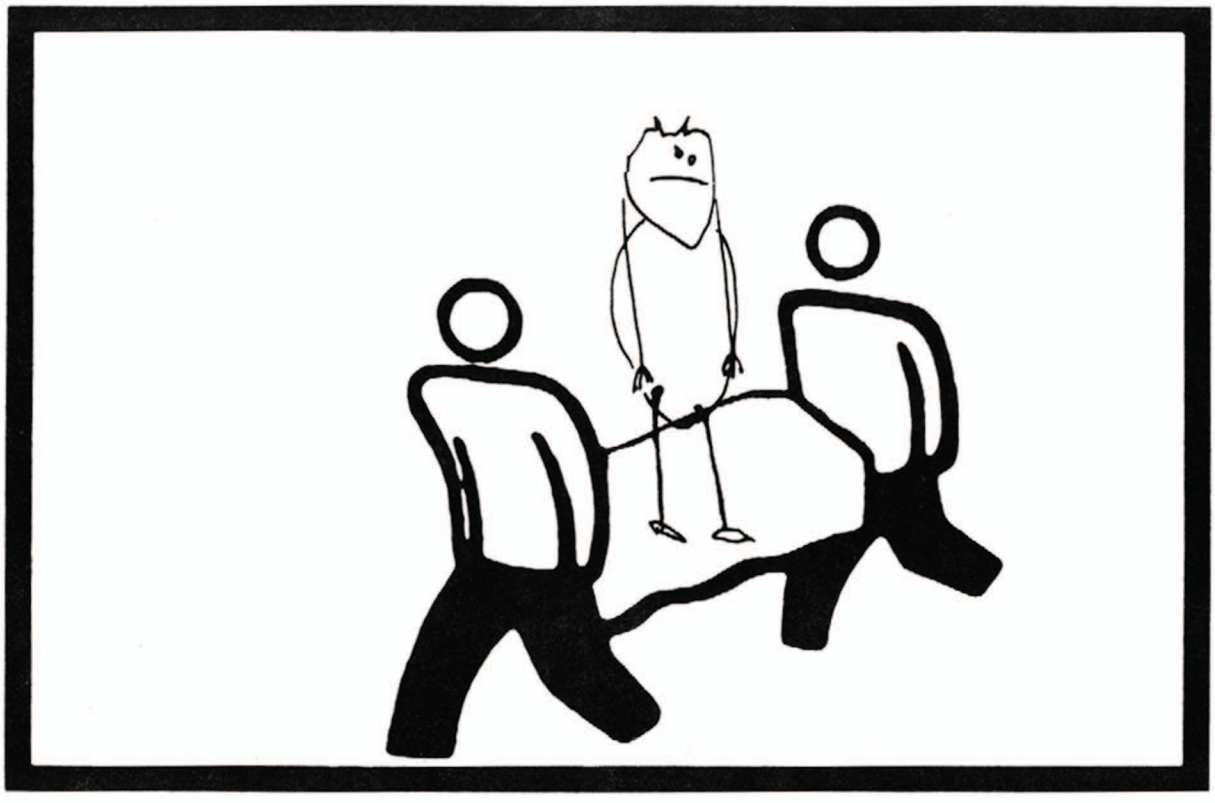
If a grain of salt were as big as the Empire State Building,
each atom within that grain would be only a tiny dot.



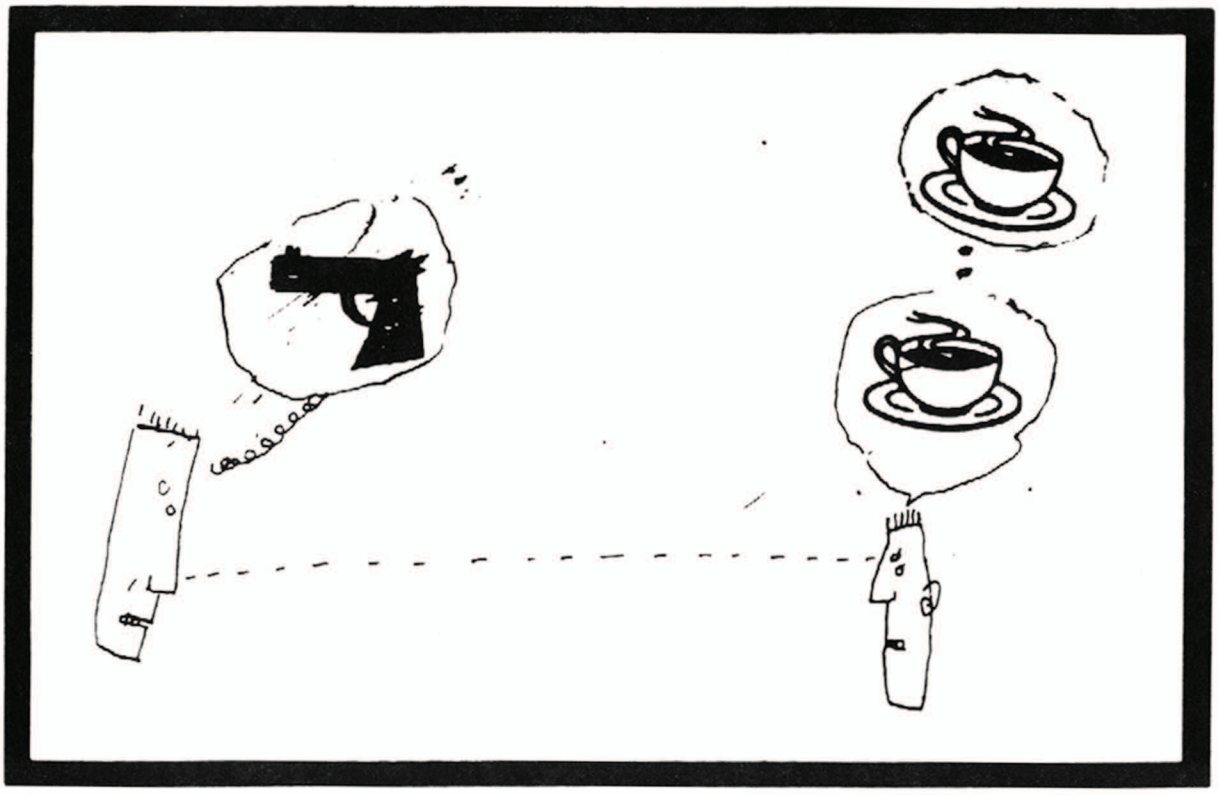
In a solid, molecules and atoms cling together in some kind
of regular arrangement.



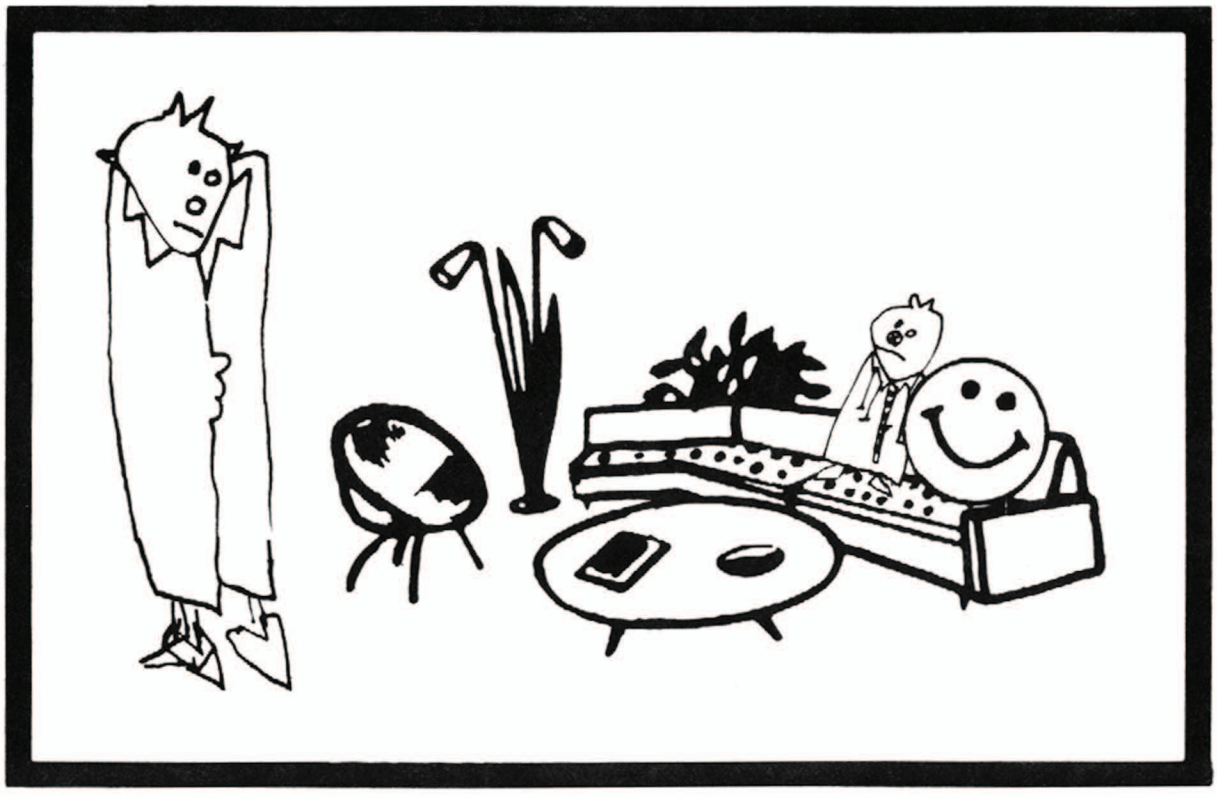
An atom has open spaces through which particles can pass.



Some Atoms Break Down



When a neutron breaks a nucleus apart by fission, countless other fissions follow.

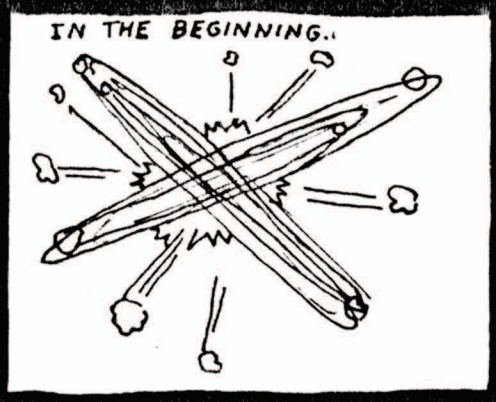


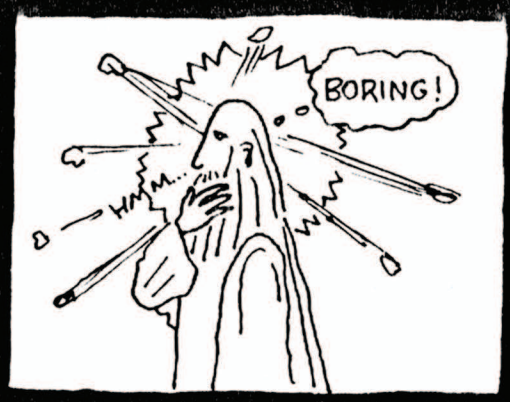
This brought us into the Atomic Age.

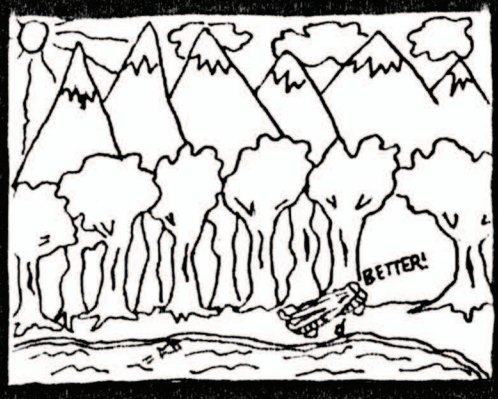
© LYNNE KASUBA & ELLEN FERGUSON

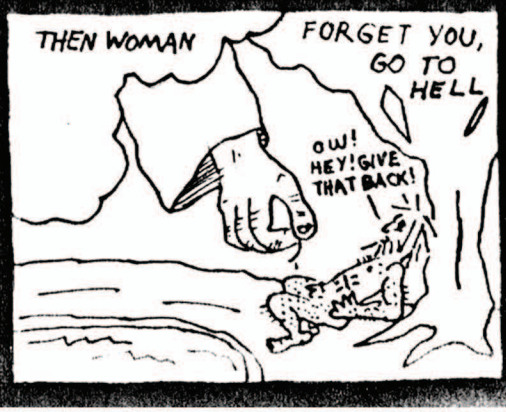
→THE LORD'S MOMENTUM←

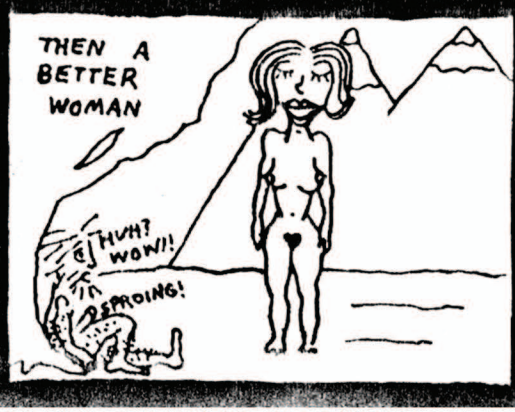
STORY BY: CHASMON DED
ARTWORK BY: JOHN E

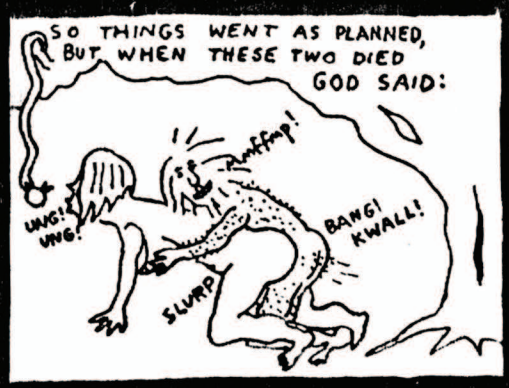






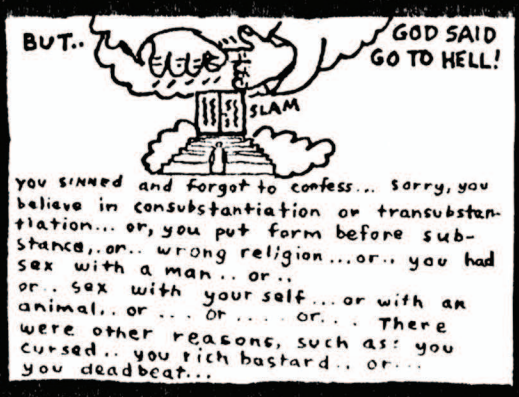





SO THINGS WENT AS PLANNED, BUT WHEN THESE TWO DIED GOD SAID:
UNG! UNG!
SLURP
BANG! KWALL!

GO TO HELL, YOU HAD SEX
SLAM!

SO GOD CREATED PRIESTS


BUT..
GOD SAID GO TO HELL!
SLAM
you SINNED and forgot to confess... sorry, you believe in consubstantiation or transubstantiation... or, you put form before substance,.or.. wrong religion...or.. you had sex with a man.. or.. or.. sex with your self...or with an animal.. or ... or .... or... There were other reasons, such as: you cursed.. you rich bastard.. or... you deadbeat...

ENTER!
EVEN THE SAINTS HAD IT TOUGH!
OH LORD, THANK YOU!

GO TO HELL!
YOU TOOK MY NAME IN VAIN
SLAM!
BUT...I DIDN'T MEAN IT THAT WAY!..

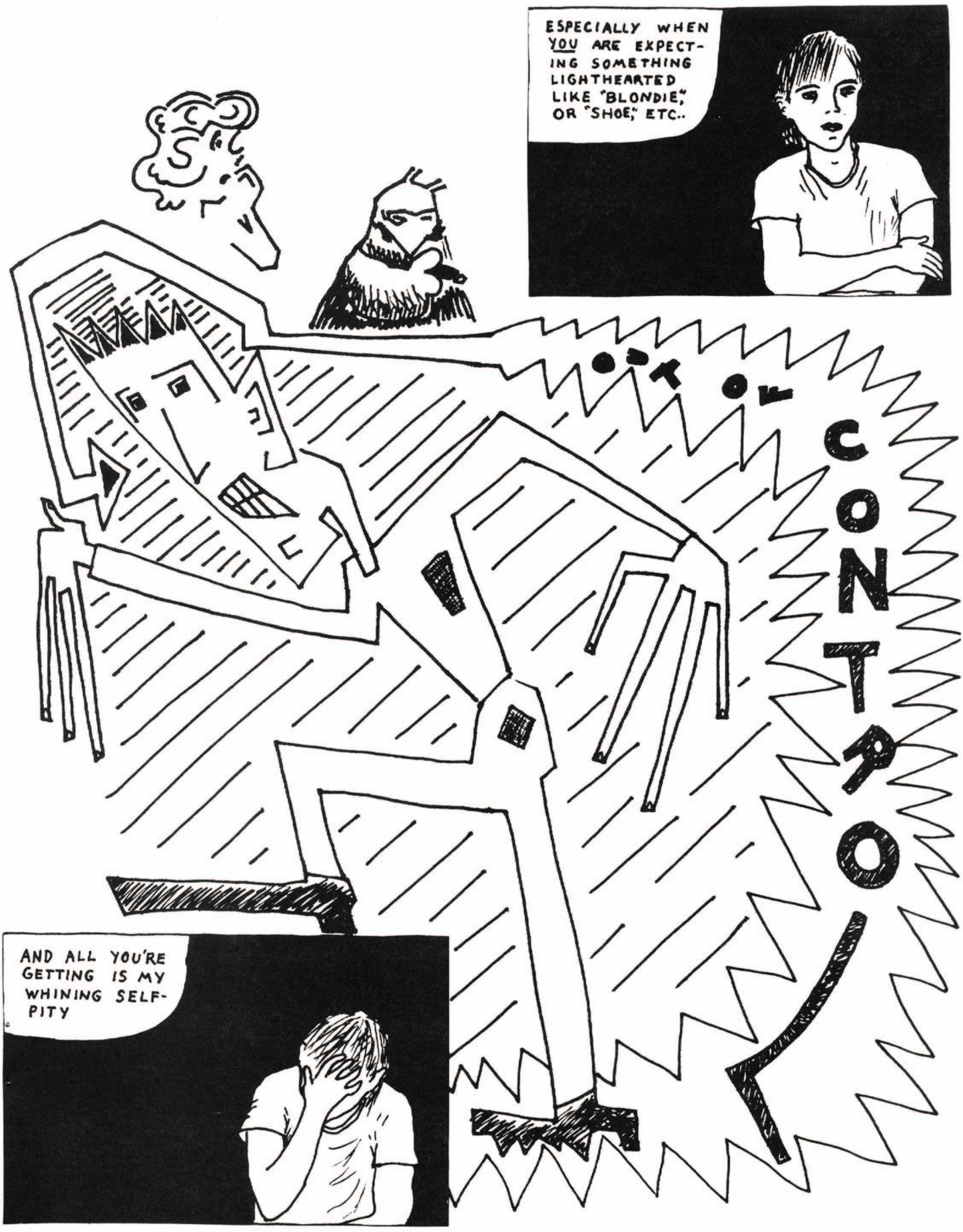
WHUMP!
I KNOW! BUT NOW YOU HAVE ARGUED WITH GOD! BEGONE

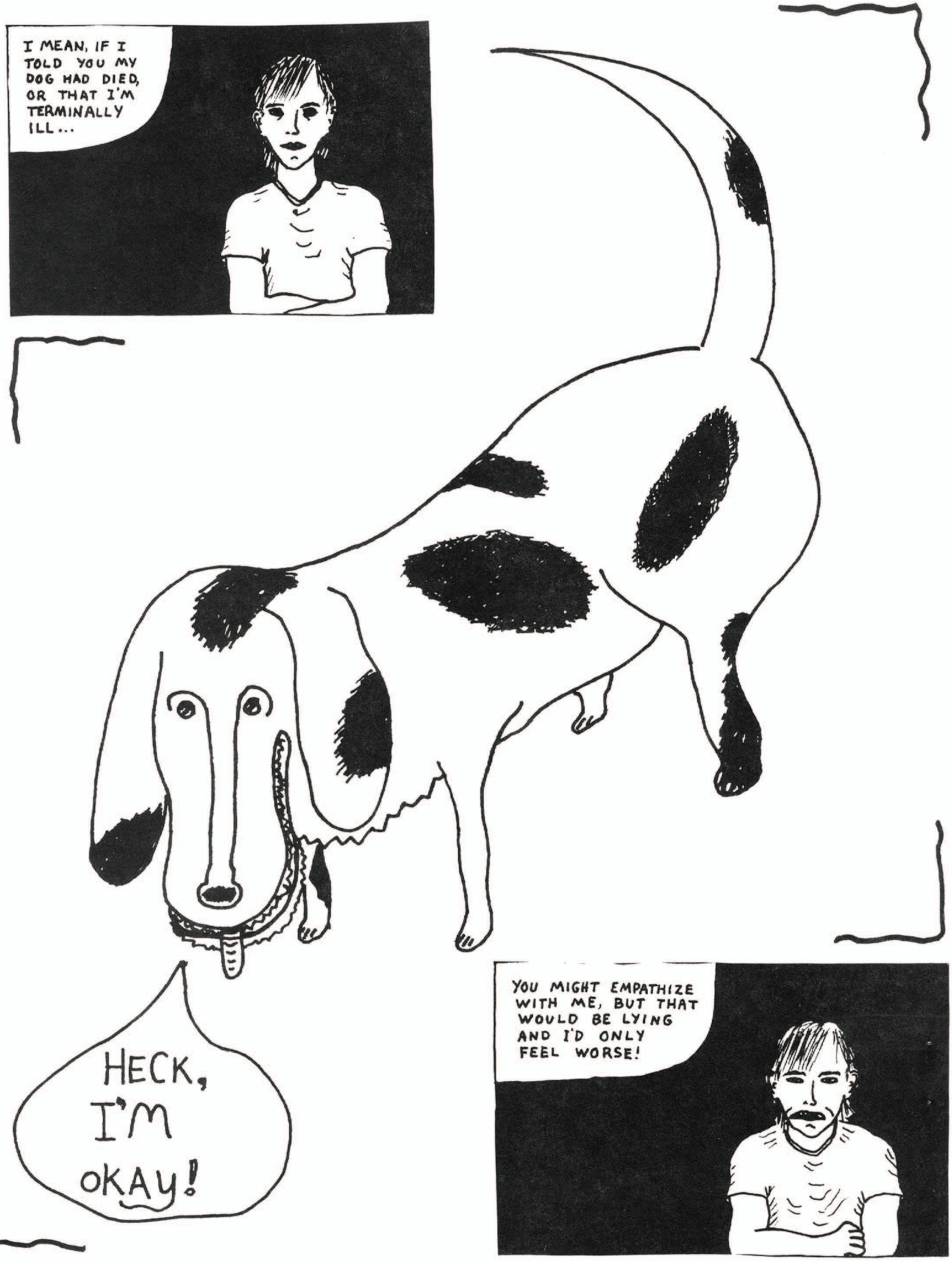
THERE IS A RUMOUR THAT NO ONE IS ALLOWED IN BECAUSE GOD IS BORED AGAIN.
HMM....

WEREWOLF VIGNETTES

micro-mini MUMBLES

©1984 JOHN E

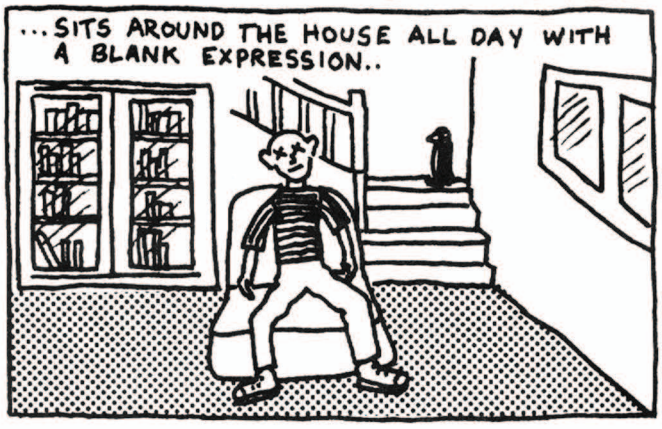

ESPECIALLY WHEN YOU ARE EXPECTING SOMETHING LIGHTHEARTED LIKE "BLONDIE," OR "SHOE," ETC..
OUT OF CONTROL
AND ALL YOU'RE GETTING IS MY WHINING SELF-PITY

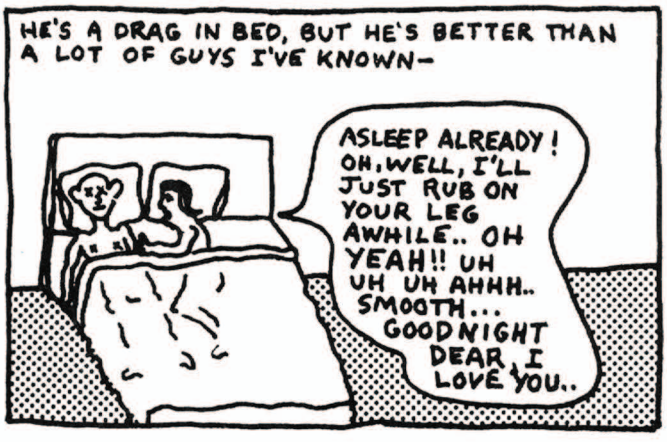

I MEAN, IF I TOLD YOU MY DOG HAD DIED, OR THAT I'M TERMINALLY ILL...
HECK, I'M OKAY!
YOU MIGHT EMPATHIZE WITH ME, BUT THAT WOULD BE LYING AND I'D ONLY FEEL WORSE!

THE REAL REASONS I'M FEELING BAD HAVE THEIR ROOTS IN SOMETHING VAGUE, HARD TO PIN DOWN...
BUTCH
EVER FEEL LIKE THAT?

MY DEAD BOYFRIEND

JOAN E © 84




HE'S A DRAG IN BED, BUT HE'S BETTER THAN A LOT OF GUYS I'VE KNOWN-
ASLEEP ALREADY! OH, WELL, I'LL JUST RUB ON YOUR LEG AWHILE.. OH YEAH!! UH UH UH AHHH.. SMOOTH... GOODNIGHT DEAR, I LOVE YOU..

..BUT, I WOULDN'T DO THAT, OUR RELATIONSHIP MAKES ME HAPPY, I THINK.. AT LEAST I KNOW WHAT TO EXPECT
I'M HOME, MY LOVABLE LITTLE FLESH TOY! LEMME GIVE YOU A HUG!! (HMNN.. KINDA COLD AND CLAMMY!)

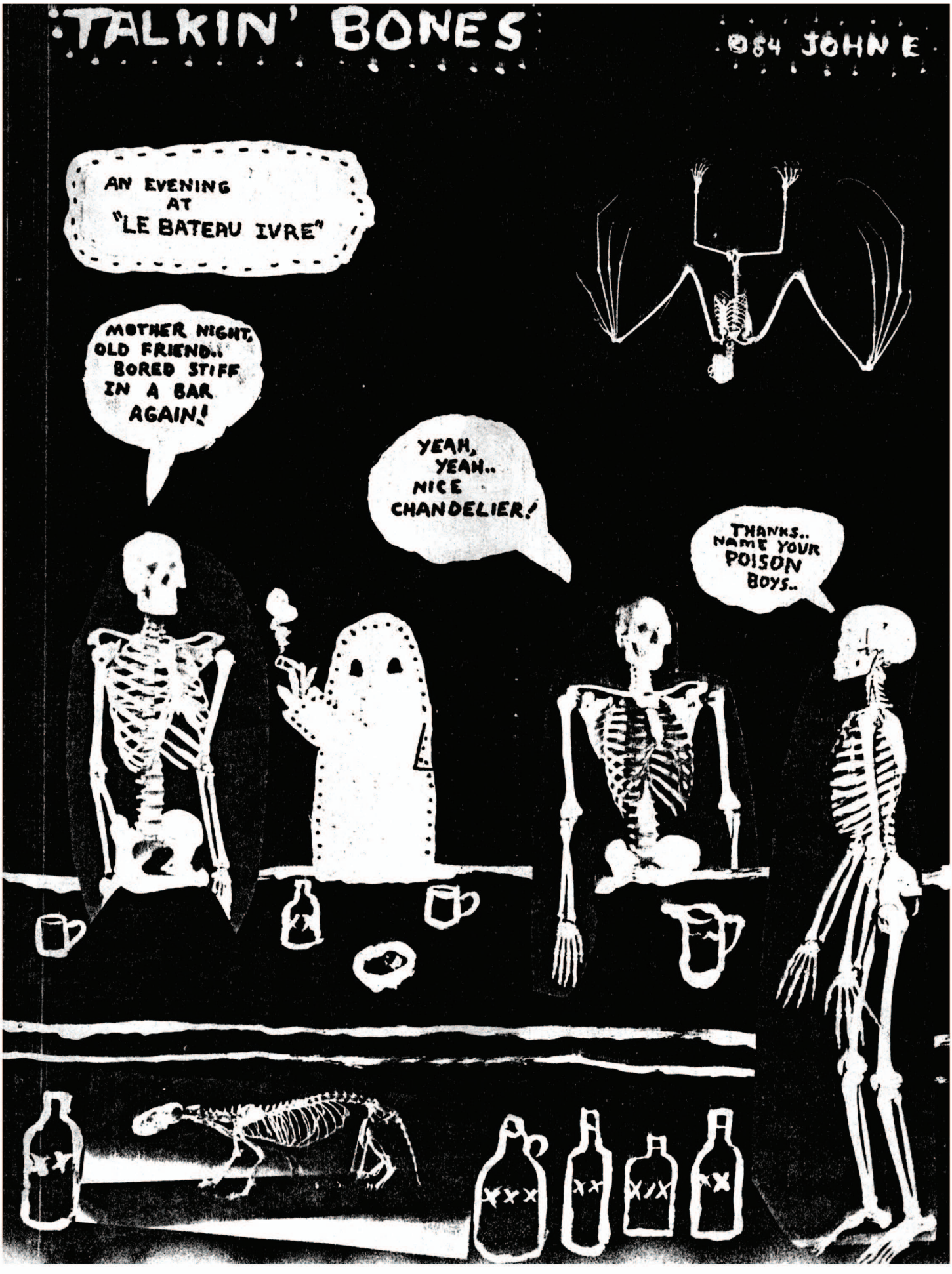
YEAH.. I KNOW IT'S CRAZY- BUT I LOVE HIM! I'M KINDA WORRIED ABOUT HIM LOSING SO MUCH WEIGHT, THOUGH.. HE WAS TOO SKINNY TO BEGIN WITH!
BONES? BONES?..

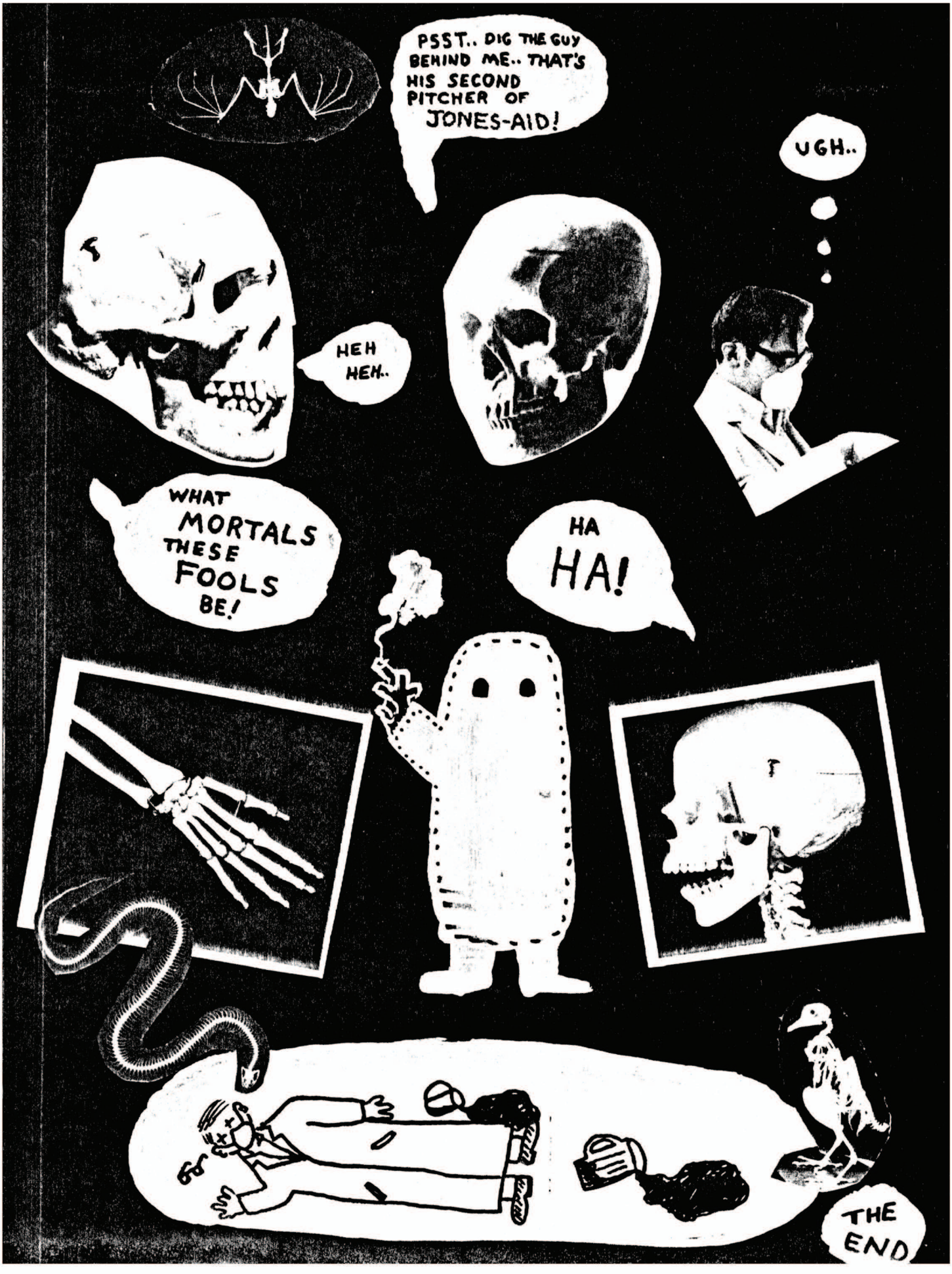
ONE AFTERNOON BONES AND I WERE JUST HANGIN' AROUND THE APARTMENT...
DING DONG
...WHEN SUDDENLY, MY PARENTS DROPPED BY!
MOMMY! DADDY!
AH HA!
JUST AS WE THOUGHT! LIVING IN SIN WITH THIS POOR EXCUSE FOR A MAN!
ACTUALLY, NO. DON'T TRY TO GET UP, HON, I'LL HANDLE THIS!
OR, DO YOU CALL THIS LIVING?
WHHY... YOU'RE A DISGRACE TO THE "E" FAMILY NAME, JOAN E! RANT RAVE, FUSS FUSS, FUSS...
HEY, LOOK!
OH, DADDY!
WHAT DA YA THINK YOU'RE LAUGHIN' AT, PUNK? I BET YOU'RE RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS MESS! MR. HOT SHOT CARTOONIST! THINK YER AN ARTIST? I'VE SEEN BETTER ON A BATHROOM WALL! WHHY, I OUGHTA COME OUT THERE AND KICK BUTT!!
JOHN!
MY BABY!
SNICKER SNICKER UH OH!

BUTCH
HEH HEH!
DADDY NO! COME BACK
DE END

TALKIN' BONES

©64 JOHN E


AN EVENING AT "LE BATEAU IVRE"
MOTHER NIGHT, OLD FRIEND.. BORED STIFF IN A BAR AGAIN!
YEAH, YEAH.. NICE CHANDELIER!
THANKS.. NAME YOUR POISON BOYS..


PSST.. DIG THE GUY BEHIND ME.. THAT'S HIS SECOND PITCHER OF JONES-AID!
UGH..
HEH HEH..
WHAT MORTALS THESE FOOLS BE!
HA HA!
THE END

The Farm Report

THE SUN ALSO RISES ON LUCY'S CAFE, DOWNTOWN RURAL ANYWHERE, U.S. OF A.

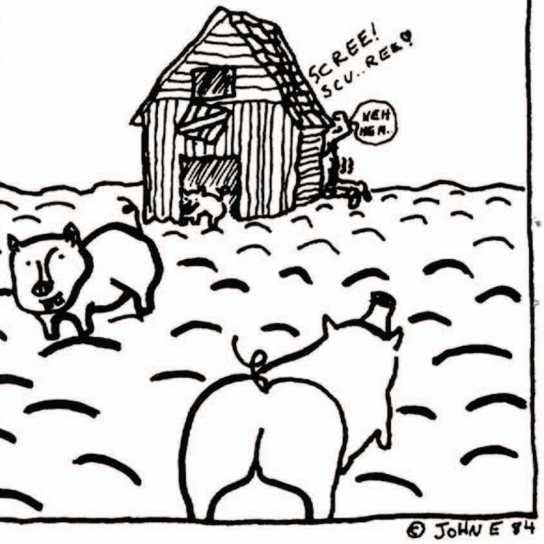
CRA-CKLEXX POP! GOOD MORNIN! GOOD PEOPLE! THIS IS LONESOME RAY, GET OUTA THE HAY AND GIVE ME A CALL! BE-FORE WE GET BACK TO THAT GOOD OL' COUNTRY MUSIC LET'S HAVE THE FARM REPORT! BROUGHT TO YOU TODAY BY MRS. EARL'S DEEP FRIED TEAT'S.. "AREN'T YOU GIRLS TIRED OF GOIN' TO THOSE GOOD OLD BOY'S MOUNTAIN OYSTER FRIES AND JUST SITTIN ON YER HANDS HUNGRY'RE THAN A HOOT OWL 'CAUSE YA CAIN'T STOMACH THE THOUGHT OF EATIN' ONE OF THEM SLIMY LIL' BAGGERS ? BRING YER OWN (ALL BEER) BAG OR BOX OF MY TEATS ALONG NEXT TIME AND HAVE THE BOYS THROW 'EM ON THE GRILL. THEY'LL TURN GREEN (WITH ENVY) FOR SURE! THEY'RE FINGER SQUEEZIN' GOOOOD!" WHOEEE!, THANKS MRS. EARL. BUT LETS BE FAIR - A LOT OF US "GOOD OLD BOYS" LIKE THEM TEATS MIGHTY FINE! WISH I HAD A MESS 'O THEM LITTLE SUCKERS RIGHT NOW! DANGED AD ALWAYS MAKES ME HONGUREE... OH WELL, HERE'S THE NEWS... IT'S A BEUTIFUL MORN! THE TEMPERTURE IS 20° ABOVE AND CLIMB-ING, WE SHOULD SEE IT TOP IN AT 25° BY NOON.. THE SHEEP ARE IN THE MEADOW, THE COWS ARE IN THE CORN... WINTER WHEAT'S DOWN.. UNDER THE SNOW... MILO'S UP IN THE SILO... THERE'LL BE A REGULAR MEETING OF THE POSSE COITUS INTERUPTUS AT THE STEVE PICKLEBARREL, UH, EXCUSE ME STEVE! THAT'S THE STEVE PICKLEBUSH PIG FARM.. DRINKS AND RE-FRESHMENTS PROVIDED BY MOONSHINE MCSPADE UH.. EXCUSE ME MOON! THAT'S MOONSHINE MC-SPUD.. ENTERTAINMENT HOUR WILL COMMENCE BEHIND STEVE'S BARN FOLLOW-ING THE MEETING... STAY TUNED FOR MORE DETAILS LATER...

MEANWHILE, AT THE PICKLEBUSH PIG FARM, STEVE PICKLEBUSH GREETS THE DAY:

A BIG FARMBOY BREAKFAST AT LUCY'S, FUELED BY LOTS OF COFFEE + TALK:

A POPULAR PIG FARM SPORT : HOG SPANKING:

IS STEVE MAKIN' BACON BEHIND THE BARN?



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ELLEN FERGUSON
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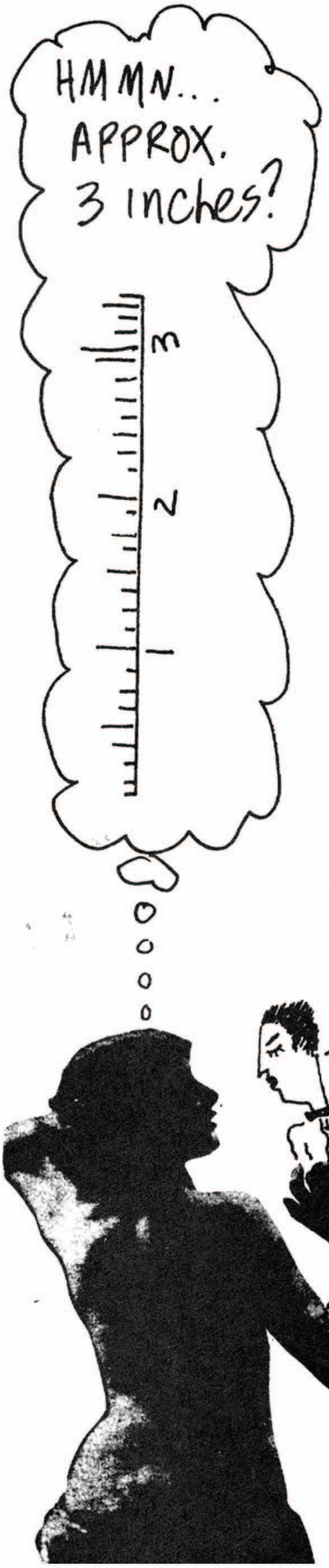
WHAT EVERY WOMAN WANTS



NO, MORE LIKE 5½" × 8½"... HOW'S THAT GRAB YA? THAT'S THE SIZE OF THESE OTHER FINE **MUMBLES PUBLICATIONS:**

MUMBLES #1 – SORRY, OUT OF PRINT. HAHAHAHAHAHAHAH!

DEAD RINGER #1 – 28 PAGES OF MIRTH – $1.50 P.P.

FROM SOUL TO POISON – 28 PAGER, $1.50 P.P.

STEPPING RAZOR – YET ANOTHER 28 PAGER, $1.50

Direct orders, correspondance, contributions — to:

MUMBLES PUBLICATIONS

I saw Nancy kissing Mr. T

AAAAIIIIIIEEEE!!!
CAN I?
AAAAIIIIIIEEEE!!!
AAAAIIIIIIEEEE!!!
WILL I?
#1 - STAY IN LINE (MAN AS MACHINE) 7-25-83 J.PRUNER ©
DAVID AND THE GOVERNMENT (MANASMACHINE) 8-12-83 J.PRUNER ©
©84

MUMBLES #3

CONTINENTAL ISSUE

LOST MY JOB! MUMBLE, MOAN! JOB... DOG..RUN OVER, GROAN! WIFE LEFT ME... OH WOE BLUBBER! NO FOOD INA HOUSE... SLOBBER... CAR'S INA SHOP, BROKE DOWN ✓x★!! -COUGH! GOTTA LEMME COME SEE YA, SPLUTTER! PLEEZE YR THE -GAG- ONLY ONE FUR ME ONLY ONE WHO UNDERST..BLORT!! WHO CARES... C'MON..UGH-BABY ARE YOU THERE? ALONE? OH PULEEZE CAN I COME..
JOB..CRACKLE..MUMBLE.. DOG... MOAN! WIFE..RUN OVER GROAN....FOOD! BLUBBER..BROKE LEMME... SPLUTTER....PLEEZE YOU'RE THE GAG! WHO CARES C'MON...SPLORT... BURP! CAN I PULEEZE?
?

JOHN E 84

INSIDE!!!

NOW 36 PAGES!

COMICS!
INTERVIEWS!!
SHORT FICTION!!!
REAL LIFE TALES!!
MORE COMICS!

PLUS!!!

GIANT POSTCARD GIVE AWAY!

SORRY KIDS, ADULLTS ONLY $2.00

Tragicomedy: 1."A play or other literary work combining tragic and comic elements. 2. A real situation or incident like this." Tragicomic book? Why not?

P. Green suggested a few years ago I work out an act as a "stand-up tragedian"... "Good evening folks, here's the news... 900 people dead in Jonestown-electric kool-aid arsenic test suspected." What it is.

MUMBLES #3. Good to be back in your livingroom. Special thanks to Steve Willis and Clay Geerdes. Steve's given up editing his unique mini-series OUTSIDE IN to concentrate on other projects. O.I. is still alive and well in the able hands of Micheal Dowers of STARHEAD COMICS, 204 1/2 N. 39th, Seattle, WA. 98103. Clay and COMIX WORLD/WAVE marches on.

Thanks to everyone who contributed this time, couldn't have done it withoutcha! Also much thanks to Wichita stores: WATERMARK BOOKS, 149 North Broadway... and SECOND TIME AROUND, 839 S. Hillside for over a year of continued support.

enjoy yourself,

John E

!!!LETTERS!!!

I'VE RECIEVED ENOUGH CORRESPONDENCE LATELY TO FILL A BOOK THIS SIZE. THE FOLLOWING TWO EXCERPTS REPRESENT BOTH ENDS OF A VAST SPECTRUM OF COMMENTS - THANKS FOR WRITING IN!

"MUMBLES" #2 isn't creatively much, but it's an earnest effort, and I would think that some people who lack taste would enjoy it.

Good luck with your life, B.N.D.

CRACK THAT WHIP! - ed.

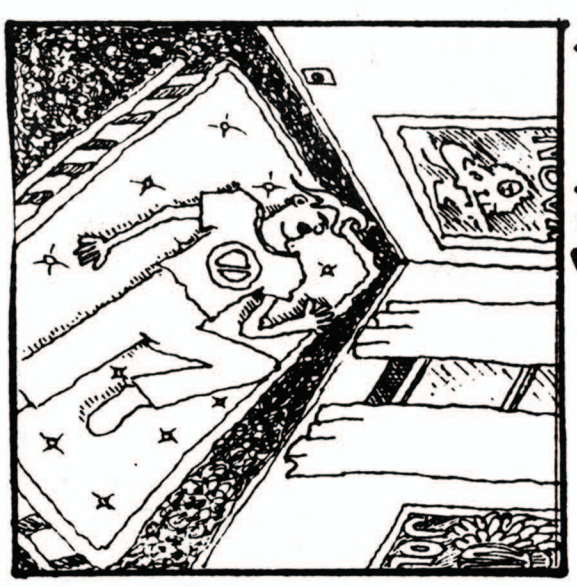
I thought your MUMBLES work was brilliant to say the least.

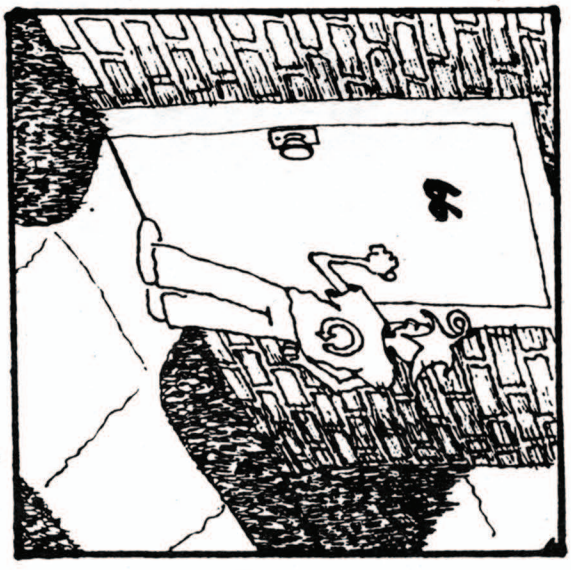
Bye, Matt Feazell

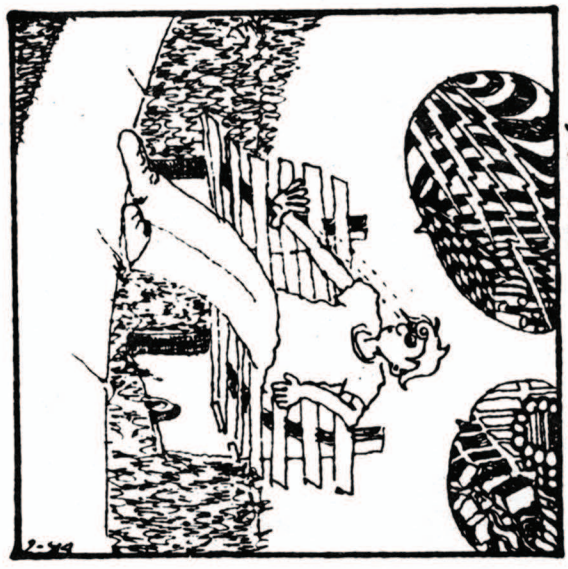
CYNICAL, MAN? NO? WHY, THANKS! - ed.

MUMBLES #3. Cover, contents, and concept copyright © May, 1984 by John Eberly for MUMBLES PUBLICATIONS. All rights revert to individual artists and writers after publication: Macedonio Garcia, Ellen Ferguson, Steve Phillips, Jim Pruner, Paul Green, Chasmon Ded, Steve Willis, Clay Geerdes, Bob X, XNO, Greg Blair, James Waltman, The Pizz, Mike Honeycutt, Jim Ryan, Doug Holverson,

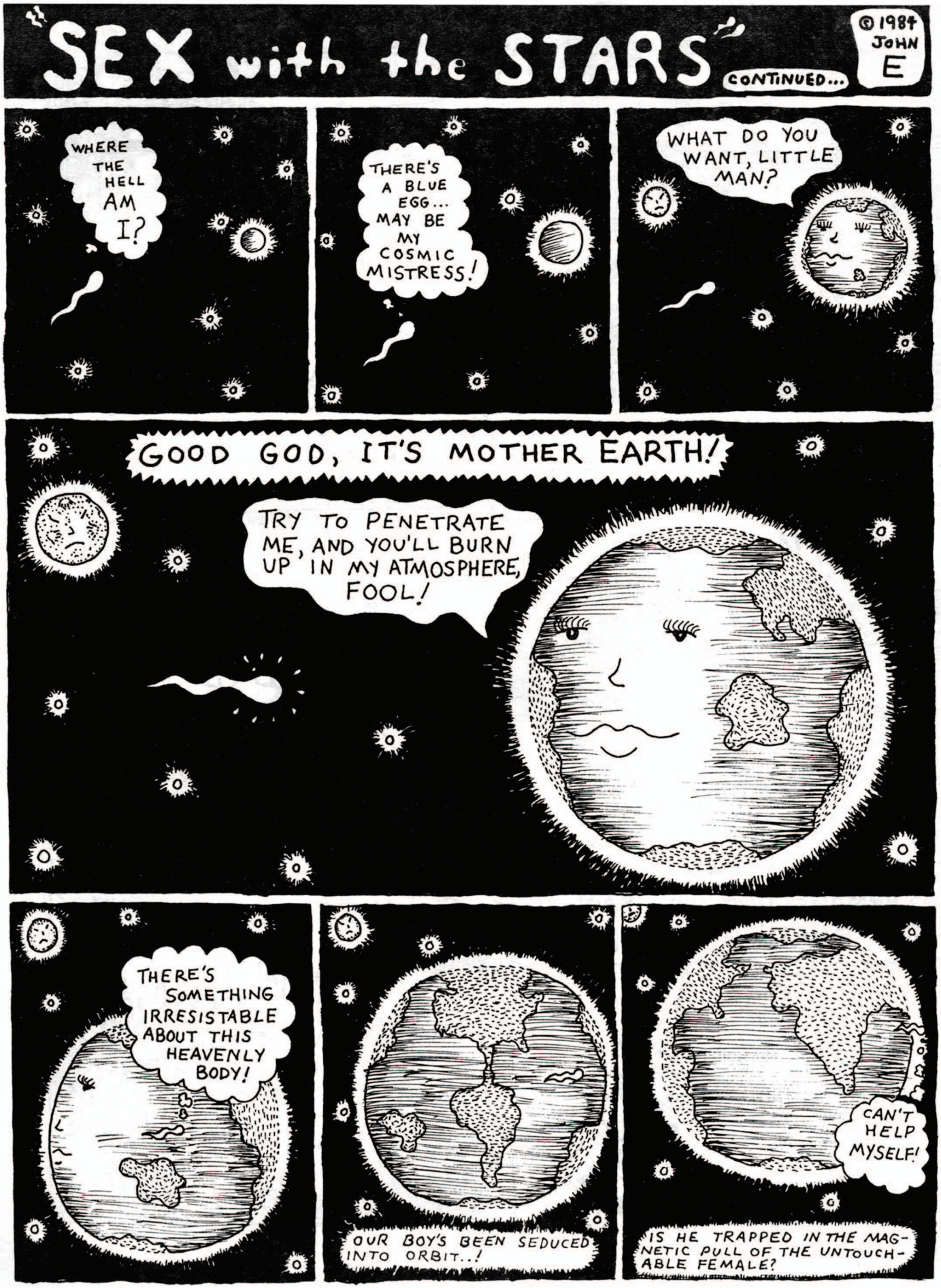
Portrait of John E (top of this page) by H.L.L., age 4.







SHAPES-1 BY BoB"X"


SEX with the STARS
CONTINUED...
© 1984 JOHN E
WHERE THE HELL AM I?
THERE'S A BLUE EGG... MAY BE MY COSMIC MISTRESS!
WHAT DO YOU WANT, LITTLE MAN?
GOOD GOD, IT'S MOTHER EARTH!
TRY TO PENETRATE ME, AND YOU'LL BURN UP IN MY ATMOSPHERE, FOOL!
THERE'S SOMETHING IRRESISTABLE ABOUT THIS HEAVENLY BODY!
OUR BOY'S BEEN SEDUCED INTO ORBIT..!
CAN'T HELP MYSELF!
IS HE TRAPPED IN THE MAGNETIC PULL OF THE UNTOUCHABLE FEMALE?

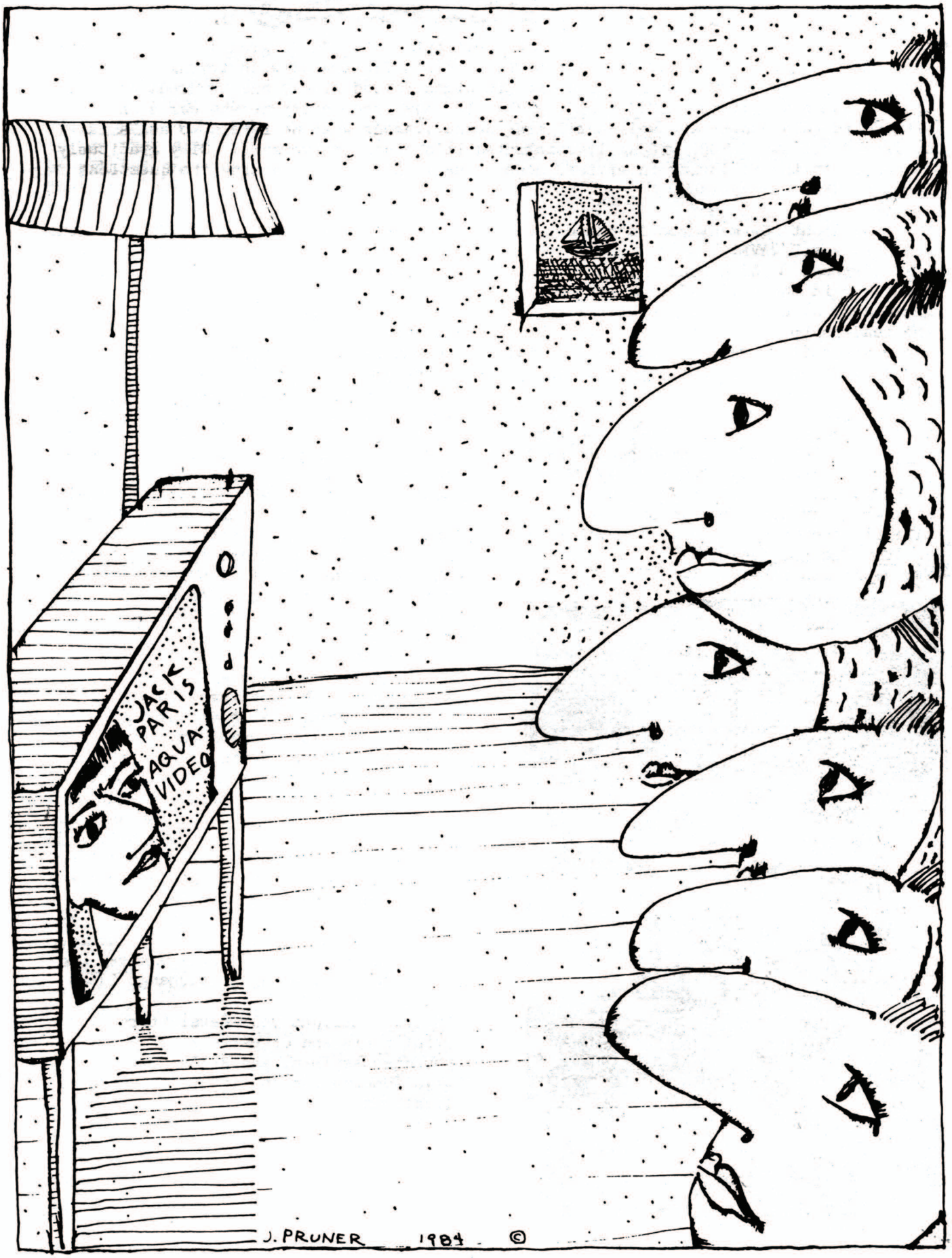
ZEB and JEB
...THAT'S IT FOR SPORTS. AND NOW ZEB WILL CLUE US IN ON THE WEATHER. ZEB?
UH... YEAH...
TOMORROW THE NATION, AND THE ENTIRE WORLD FOR THAT MATTER, CAN EXPECT WEATHER OF SOME SORT.
BUT WHAT DOES THAT MATTER WHEN NUCLEAR WAR CAN DESTROY US ALL ANY SECOND?!?
YES! AND JESUS WILL RETURN AND KICK THE ANTICHRIST IN THE POOPER! AND ARMAGEDDON WILL RAIN FIREY DEATH UPON US!!!
AND ALL YOU ROTTEN SINNERS WILL FRY!!! FRY!!! HAHAHAHAHAHA!

TV
YOU BUMS WILL NEVER WORK IN THIS TOWN AGAIN! LAST TIME I WILL EVER HIRE SIAMESE TWINS! YOU GEEKS! NEVER COME
SMOOTH MOVE, EX-LAX! YET ANOTHER JOB WE CAN KISS GOODBYE — THANKS TO YOU!
SORRY JEB, I...I... JUST COULDN'T HELP MYSELF!
?
?
FRANKLY, YOUR EXCUSES ARE STARTING TO GET TIRESOME ...WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO STOP THIS NONSENSE?!?
I..I...
...I REALLY CAN'T HELP IT, JEB! JUST LOOK AT ALL THE SIN AROUND US! PEOPLE THINK THEY HAVE A PERFECT RIGHT TO LAUGH AND SING AND DANCE AND ENJOY THEMSELVES WHENEVER THEY WANT...
...AND WORST OF ALL, THEY WANT TO THINK FOR THEMSELVES!!! THE VERY GALL OF IT! DON'T THEY KNOW WE'RE ON EARTH TO GO THROUGH GUILT-RIDDEN SUFFERING, JUST LIKE...
...OUR SAVORING LORD JESUS H. CHRIST.
ENOUGH OF THIS, ZEB!

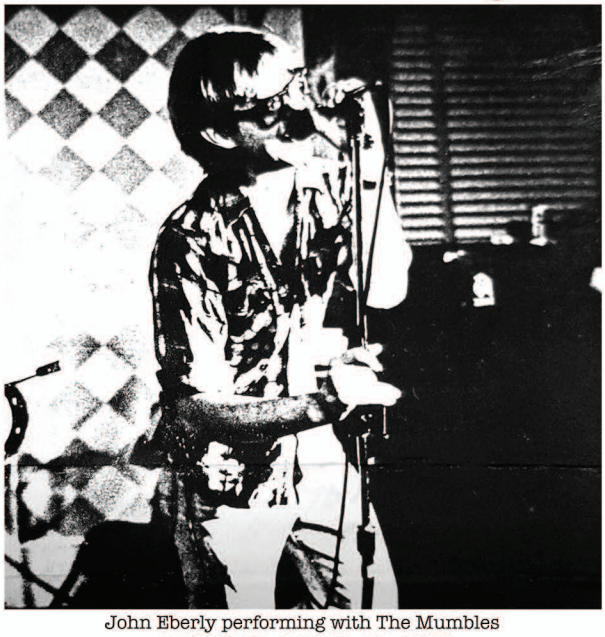
BUT JEB, THERE IS NO QUESTION THIS BOOK CANNOT ANSWER!
WHAT'S THE CAPITAL CITY OF OHIO?
CLEVELAND! NO, AKRON! NO, SANDUSKY! NO! NO! I DON'T KNOW, BUT IT DOESN'T MATTER! THE POINT IS...
WHAT'S WRONG? DOESN'T YOUR BOOK HAVE AN INDEX?
HOLY BIBLE
I CAN'T TAKE IT! I JUST CAN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE!! I SIMPLY WILL NOT LOOK UPON THIS SIN AROUND ME EVER AGAIN!!
OUT, VILE JELLIES!!
THAT'S A BIT DRASTIC, DON'T YOU THINK?
SQUIRT! POP POP
AND I EAT UPON THE EVIL WINDOWS THAT EAT UPON MY SOUL!!!
WEIRD.
GULP!
HEY, LOOKIT THAT! YOUR EYES POPPED BACK THROUGH YOUR NOSE!
I CAN'T WIN...

SPROING!
FREE AT LAST!
OING!
BOING!
TRIP!
PFPFT!
POOMPF!

CUTE.
BUT REALLY, THOSE GAPING HOLES ARE QUITE UNSIGHTLY. THESE PING-PONG BALLS I MARKED SHOULD DO THE TRICK...
NOW, LET'S GO. I KNOW WHERE WE CAN FIND ONE JOB YOU CAN'T FUCK UP!
LATER - INSIDE ZEB'S MOUTH...
AT LAST! NO MORE SIN TO LOOK AT!
BUT ON THE OUTSIDE...
YESSIR, AN ELEGANT WINE, Cherise Merde, '72. ALLOW ME TO OPEN THIS BOTTLE FOR YOU.
THANK YOU, WAITER.
POP!
S.W.


JACK PARIS AQUA-VIDEO
J. PRUNER 1984 ©

A Brief History of MUMBLES



John Eberly performing with The Mumbles
at The 3D Klubb in Wichita 1986

The original version of Mumbles was a band formed in July of 1976 by John Eberly based on his concept of a punk rock band. The original members were Richie Rich on drums, Shields on bass guitar, John E. (John Eberly) on guitar, and P. Green on vocals. The band's line-up was basically a living room R & R type band. Eberly said that "He hesitates to use the term 'Garage band,'" since all of the band members lived in utility apartments, all of which didn't include an actual garage.

The Mumbles had loose plans to ride the wave of punk music that was happening at that time and following their enjoyment of intense bands of the late 1970s. Their influences were The Ramones, Television, The Stooges, and Punk Rock forerunners The Sex Pistols. The early version of The Mumbles performed cover versions of songs originally written by The Stooges, The Rolling Stones, and more offbeat bands such as Sam The Sham and The Pharaohs.

The Mumbles band thrashed their way into obscurity; they had plans to record a one-off single record. The single's songs were to be "Down and Shout," which was backed with a B-side named "John E. Be Good." They were going to release a 45rpm record on their homemade label called "Lethal Aid Records." The recording project never got off the ground; this caused a disgusted band member Shields, to pack up and leave for Australia to start a Carp fish ranch. Then another member, Rick, got married and mellowed out of the Punk scene. For Eberly, he decided to return to art school at Emporia State to finish his painting degree. P. Green went to work at a slaughterhouse. Job positions in the meatpacking industry were prominent in Kansas.

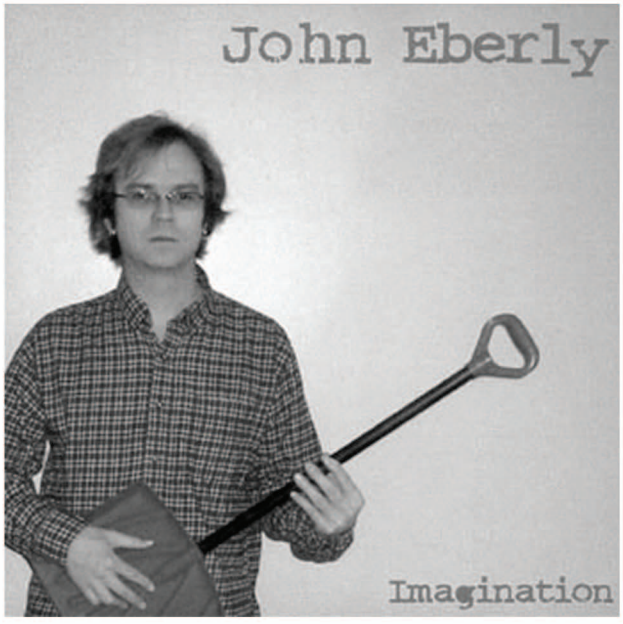
John Eberly continued writing short stories and was one of the early founders of the underground fanzine scene, homemade booklets loosely based on the San Francisco underground comics scene from the late 1960s. The fanzine community grew to a worldwide movement, proliferating based on the availability of inexpensive photocopying machines. Artists and writers could self-publish their works in small or large print runs based on whatever cash was on available, creating the layouts and bindings by hand.

In the mid-1980s, Eberly resurrected The Mumbles logo from the original version of the band and formed Mumbles Publications, which resulted in a long string of Eberly's self-published works. He became prominent in what became known as "The Mail Art Scene," where artists or writers shared their artworks globally through the postal service.

Mumbles comic book began as a solo venture for Eberly, who wrote and drew all of the issue contents for the first several issues. He invited other artists and writers from Kansas to contribute to a collaborative issue in the following issue. The following issues expanded with contributions from artists from across the country. The Mumbles Comix had a six-issue run beginning in 1984 and ending in 1990 with Eberly's final solo mini-book of bad visual puns in the form of cartoon illustrations.

In the mid-1980s, Eberly also formed a new version of The Mumbles band with Ken Haug on guitar, Date Stuke on bass, with Ron Stallbaumer on drums. This new version of the band was centered around Wichita, Kansas, performing music based on similar influences as the earlier band.

The Mumbles peroforming at the KMUW Aftermidnight Benefit BASH concert 1987



Bootleg recordings of The Mumbles band are still traded widely, with copies showing up in collector groups internationally. In current times there has been a resurgence of both mail-art and fanzines, with the original earlier publications now being collected as a historical movement by private collectors, universities, and museums. Copies of Eberly's publications can still be found worldwide and are included in The Museum of Modern Art's fanzine collection.

Special thanks to John Eberly and Mike Blur Wahweotten for their assistance in compiling this anthology.

- Demolition Kitchen Media, 2021

Eberly performing a solo set in Hutchinson 2020

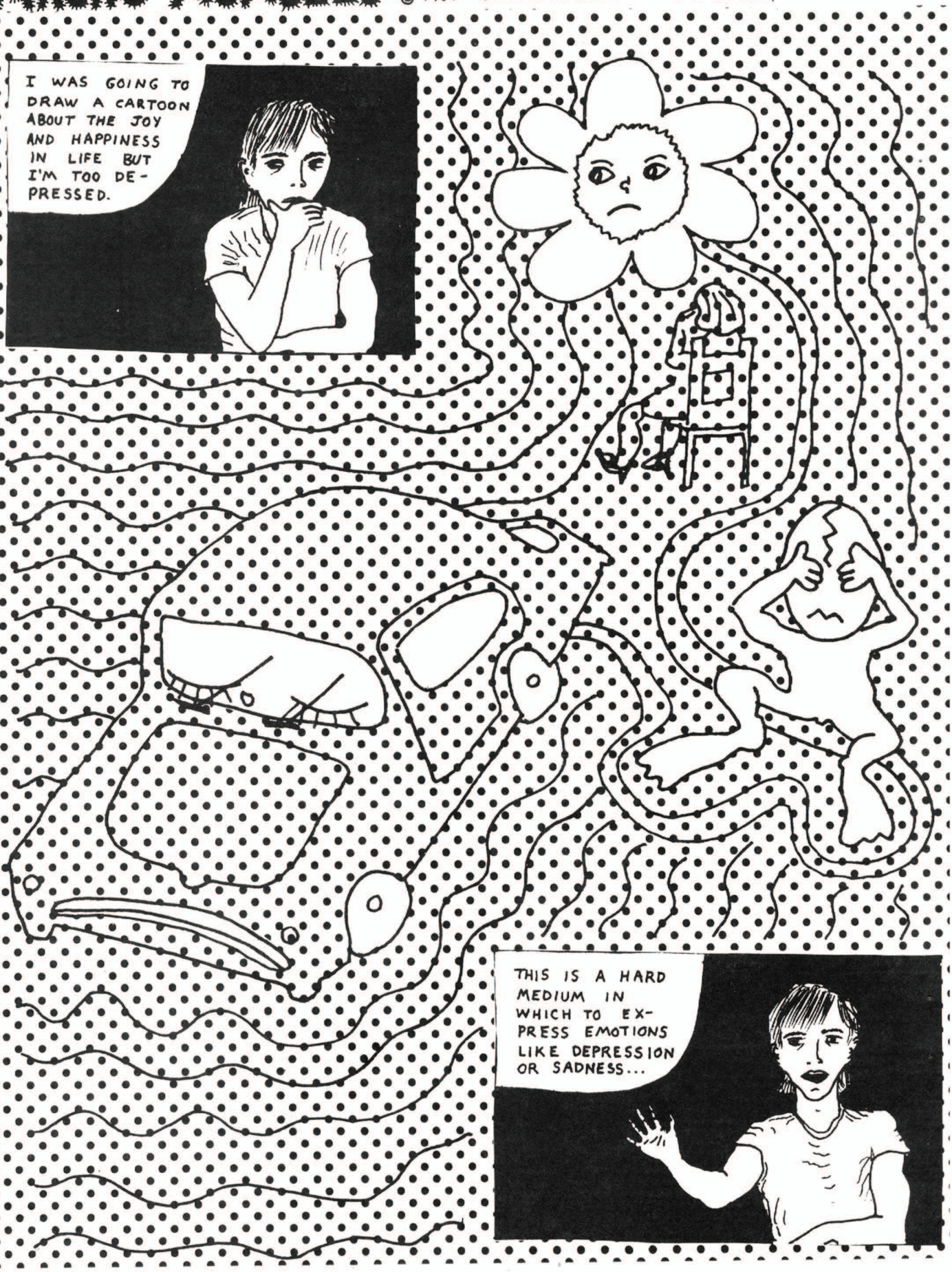
Their rehearsal space was dubbed "The Shed," this name became prominently featured in some of their cassette releases' titles. The new Mumbles band had an energy and power that gained them an impressive following. Eberly's vocal styles and Ken Haug's guitar could literally shake the roof off any venue they played.

The new Mumbles band released several recordings, mostly on cassette, which was the popular format for releasing recordings at that time. They also became a staple band for Wichita's late-night college radio program Aftermidnight, performing at the annual KMUW Aftermidnight Benefit BASH. A local soundman for the BASH concerts was John McBride, who later went on to work with Garth Brooks. Years later, John McBride was impressed enough with the band to bring them to Nashville and record an album at his studio; the resulting recordings are yet to be released.

Eberly performing an Internet solo broadcast set at home in Hutchinson 2020

MACRO MUMBLES

© 1984 JOHN E: "WHATEVER HAPPENED TO 'SAD SACK'?


I WAS GOING TO DRAW A CARTOON ABOUT THE JOY AND HAPPINESS IN LIFE BUT I'M TOO DE-PRESSED.
THIS IS A HARD MEDIUM IN WHICH TO EX-PRESS EMOTIONS LIKE DEPRESSION OR SADNESS...

ALL ABOARD FOR FUNTIME!
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